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FANATICS ATTACKED BY IRANIAN NEWSPAPERS

U.S. Role Criticized

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 31 Jul 79 p 4

[Text] July 31, (Bakhtar).—
The Mardum daily of Iran in its issue of Saratan 20 in an article captioned "America supports anti—revolution acts in Afghanistan" writes:

Some quarters, politicians, leaders and leading figures opine on USA which is indeed a cause of surprise and regret.

These opinions are sometimes inviting to the United States and sometimes support the military and non-military solidarity with America.

In the latter case we can openly point out to the statements of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and First Minister of the transitional government of Iran about the military pacts with America and purchase of military spare parts from USA which are now discussed by millions of Iranian patriots. They now ask themselves why some state authorities defend the preservation of unequal ties between Iran and America.

With regard to the former case which is not unrelated with the latter one we should refer to the statements of Ayatollah Qommi in his interview with the editor—in—chief of American magazine GI. As these statements are related with the internal affairs of Afghanistan and cause tension on the borders of Iran and disturbance of good neighbourliness between Iran and Afghanistan is a matter of surprise and regret to every patriotic Iranian.

Ayatollah Qommi has declared that if the United States of America defends the human rights why has it kept silent, in the so called savage massacre of the people of Afghanistan.

We seriously challenge the information of Ayatollah Qommi about savage killings in Afghanistan and why was he silent during all the years when the feudals of Afghanistan in support of imperialism of America, kept this country as one

of the most backward countries of the world / held its people under st severe exploitatio 1 they did not defend 2 Muslim people of Afghanistan.

There are lots of questions about the relation of the distorted news published about the internal events of Afghanistan which has greatly disturbed the ties between Iran and Afghanistan. But as far as the statements of Ayatollah Qommi are concerned it might be necessary for him to know not to be much concerned about the non-interference of America in the internal affairs of Afghanistan because the United States of America is directly interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan by strengthening anti-revolution movement and making use of the disturbances sparked off by the feudal lords and burglars in Afghanistan. The United States of America shoulders the responsibility of training anti-revolution elements and provision of arms at the bases set up in Pakistan. The United States of America is interfering directly in propagating false news about the developments and events in Afghanistan.

With due attention to these facts the people of Iran expect that the interference of the United States of America in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and the conspiracy hatched against the khalqi state of Afghanistan should be objected to and not that support is given to the imperialist and reactionary forces against the people of Afghanistan.

Fanatic Leaders

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 31 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Fanatic Leaders of Iran Are Puppets"]

[Text]

Times and again we have been saying that the reactionary fanatic leaders of Iran are nothing but the puppet of imperialists, but some people might have felt as if we are propagating against them. Thanks God that an Iranian newspaper called daily Mardum, in its issue of July 11 writes that there are some sort of collusion between Irani fanatic leaders and the international imperialism. That is to say some sources of the Irani fanatic regime are looking forward to purchase military spare parts and they are seeking support of the imperialists and imperialistic circles.

On the basis of this writing no doubt will remain in the fact that Irani fanatic leaders have been originally guided and supported by the imperialists in order to replace the monarchical regime in a bid to just keep going their lots in this country. This, in effect, is the way the imperialists act upon every time when they see their benefit in danger in a society, a country and a region. The Shah in Iran has been becoming too rotten. Not only the people of Iran knew that the rule of Shah was getting boring and sickening to the

people but the Shah himself has realised this. That is why he and his imperialistic allies would have desperately making all-sided efforts if they could normalise the condition to the benefit of the Shah but it was too late as the people were getting furious and did not want him any more to stay and suck more the blood of the oppressed people of Iran. Finally as a result of the uprising of the noble people of Iran the king was ousted from that country. The people did away with the rotten monarchical system as an autocratic and cruel system there.

The progressive and noble people of Iran would have thought that by ousting the king they would establish a regime in which they could secure their rights and freedoms. But it was not more than a dream. As a proverb goes in the Dari language "they have fallen from the frying-pan into the fire". Because, just changing the name from monarchical into republic does not do any good to the people. They have to demonstrate the republican system in practice in the real sense of the word. The people should enjoy the merits and privileges of a republican order.

Let us ask these fanatic and reactionary leaders of Iran whether killing of too many innocent persons without being tried is a reflection of a people's regime? Is it based on the sacred Islamic law? Is it a democratic practice?

It is obvious that the acts of the fanatic leaders of Iran are based on their own will and desires and the will and desires of their masters. They are totally related to their own personal decisions. And despite all these ominous acts they are still crying of an Islamic republic.

The fanatic leaders of Iran are not only bringing about difficulties and utmost unrest to the people of Iran but upon collusion with the imperialistic circles they are clearly interfering in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan which has established such a lofty democratic regime which is unprecedented in the whole region and in the world.

The daily Mardum referring to this issue says that the fanatic leaders of Iran are making some statements which are considered as intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan leading to cause "tension in the borders of Iran and disturbance of

good neighbourly relations between Iran and Afghanistan. It is a matter of surprise and regret to every patriotic Iranian." It is a fact that patriots and progressive minded persons everywhere think about the benefit of his fellow men in the world. We know that the noble and progressive people of Iran have already realised that DRA's regime is totally to the benefit of not only the people of Afghanistan who have established it but to the benefit of all people of the region. It has given a clue to the peoples of this part of the world toward their independence and freedom in the real sense of the word. That is why the noble and progressive people of Iran have an eye on our revolution and are defending it against the plots and conspiracies of the enemies of humanity and progress. It is a fact that the number of the progressive elements in Iran is far more than these fanatics and it is sure that the success is on the side of these noble progressive people who are really seeking the vested interest of all oppressed people wherever they may be. Long live the unity of the progressive peoples.

CSO: 4920

IRAN'S 'DEMAGOGUES,' RADIO TEHRAN LABELED 'LIARS'

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 23 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Liars Have No Memory"]

[Text]

There is a proverb in the Dari language which says: "The liar has no memory".

Radio Teheran, another means of propaganda of the imperialist powers once says that the policy of the reactionary regime and fanatic leaders of Iran is based on non-interference in others affairs. But it says later that "the office of (so-called) Afghanistan Islamic society in Zahidan informs..."

Now, if the fanatic reactionary leaders of Iran are actually true in their claim that they are not interfering in the internal affairs of others so why they have given way to the treacherous insurgents from Afghanistan to live in different provinces of Iran. And why they call them by such and such Islamic society while neither these insurgents are Muslims nor the fanatic leaders of Iran. Because they are creating tensions and discord among the Islamic societies. They are

The ones who are creating the idea of Shiite and Sunni among the toiling people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the noble progressive people of Iran.

Radio Teheran in its broadcast said that there is no relation between the fanatic leaders of Iran and the fugitives and insurgents of Afghanistan. But in the mean time the Radio says that there is some link between the movements of Iran and the insurgents of Afghanistan.

Let us ask these demagogues if is there any other movement in Iran other than the fanatic and reactionary movement of you reactionary and fanatic leaders which act against the lofty khalqi regime of Afghanistan? Because this is the only movement acting against the will and progress of the people not only in the DRA but in different provinces of Iran and among

all nationalities of that country.

The movements other than the movement of so-called Ayatullahs are all pro-people and to the interests of the people, especially the workers, peasants and other toilers who have been suffering greatly from the tyranny and collusions of the colonialism and imperialism and their lackeys here and there.

Thus when they say there is a relation between the insurgents of the DRA and the Islamic movements of Iran they surely mean the so-called Ayatullahs, or rather the made-in-Paris Mullahs. We are going to call the attention of the oppressed people of Iran and the men of intellect of that brother nation to ponder deep into the deeds and actions of these fanatic reactionary leaders, whose efforts are to create ground for the exploitation of the imperialists in the heroic soil of Iran, to try to seize the power from these fanatics and take it at their own hands be-

cause these fanatic leaders and reactionary servants of imperialism are going to ruin your beautiful country and kill your thoughtful peoples. The noble and progressive people of Iran should realise that these fanatic leaders are the men of centuries ago. They are not familiar with the present day politics nor they have any idea about the good administration and government. If the condition continues this way in Iran we assure you that the condition will be deteriorated further.

If the religious fanatic leaders of Iran are actually true in their claim that they are not intervening in the internal affairs of others so they should better take step toward solving the problems of our Irani brothers rather than provoke the treacherous insurgents against the heroic Afghans.

At any rate, the Afghans would tolerate to a certain extent all these provocations and agitations. But there may come a time that the Afghans along with their progressive Irani brothers would launch a hard blow to these reactionary servants of the imperialism and black reaction. We are certain that the progressive people of Iran themselves would act against these reactionary fanatics and sooner or later these lackeys of imperialism would be wiped out and uprooted from Iran.

ANTI-DRA PROPAGANDA CONDEMNED BY PAKISTAN 'PROGRESSIVE ELEMENT'

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 19 Jul 79 p 3

[Text] Sayed Mohammad Zahorul Hasnain, one of the progressive elements of Pakistan has issued the following press statement for publication.

We the workers of Pakistan highly appreciate and support the statements of Baluch and Pashtoon students organizations which they have given in support of the Great Saur Revolution of Afghanistan. Along with them we also condemn the false propaganda of reactionary circles of Pakistan over their interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

To strengthen this unity of action is particularly necessary at this time when imperialist threats are becoming more real and persistent. Imperialist plans are not only against Afghan people but as well as against the interests of the peoples of Pakistan and Iran in this region. It is therefore vitally necessary for all the progressive and peace loving people to build up unity of all oppressed people and ensure that they reject the attempt to divide them from their natural allies and comrade in action--the Afghan people. The slander propaganda campaign conducted by imperialist circles against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan conducted under the auspices of championing so-called human and religious rights and freedoms pursues many purposes. The significant progressive changes that have taken place in Afghanistan after Great Saur Revolution and which imperialism is compelled to reaction with is profoundly affecting all the areas of Pakistan and Iran society and imperialism areas to lose its supremacy in this region.

The previous regimes in Afghanistan before Great Saur Revolution have revealed the inability of the policy to ensure economic growth and national progress. They strengthened relations based on exploitation. The ruling classes in Afghanistan which enjoyed definite privileges completely disregarded the vital interests of the overwhelming majority of their people and dragged the country deeper and deeper into the meshes of economic and political dependence on imperialism.

The Great Saur Revolution of Afghanistan which has an anti-imperialist democratic and socially progressive content and which is directed against subversion and obstacles to the agrarian revolution, workers' participation in control over production and so on, is one of the greatest acts in the history of anti-colonial, anti-imperialist struggle of the peoples of the developing countries. Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is growing, gaining strength and constantly improving creating for its citizens evermore favourable conditions for life, creative work and intellectual development.

After the successful Great Saur Revolution the balance of power in this region has positively shifted in favour of national liberation movements and all the democratic forces and the struggle for national and democratic rights in Pakistan and Iran is gaining strength and intensity.

The policy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is based on principles like peace equality of states, noninterference in their domestic affairs, nonalignment and so on. Nonalignment means pursuit of independent policy and indeed the People's Democratic Government of Afghanistan is convinced that the nonalignment can only be anti-imperialist.

For the two camps, the two social systems cannot be equated: one exploits the developing countries while the other supports and helps them. Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is fighting against imperialism and internal reaction, and this is the struggle that cannot be carried on single handed. They are making use of their own potentialities but that does not mean that Afghanistan should hold aloof from the progressive forces of the world, the socialist countries and especially the Soviet Union, the national liberation movements and the working class capitalist countries.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is making every effort to bring about the conditions necessary for building a society void of exploitation of man by man.

Our region is of tremendous importance. Imperialism is aware of this fact that if the Great Saur Revolution advances successfully, its success can largely promote the anti-imperialist democratic struggle in Pakistan and Iran. That is why it is using its agents within and outside Afghanistan to undermine the development of Great Saur Revolution. They are all out to block Afghanistan's turn towards a society void of exploitation of man by man. Imperialists and their local allies are trying hard to cultivate various religious and communal prejudices to oppose the progressive forces in Afghanistan.

But the working people who have come through the grim experience of struggle against imperialism are fully aware of these conspiracies. They have shown in various forms that they no longer trust the imperialist propaganda against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is confronted with many difficulties and enemies but we are optimistic first because of the Afghan people's will and second because of decisive change in the world balance of forces in favour of National Liberation movements and all the forces of peace and progress.

CSO: 4920

IRAN ACCUSED OF 'PUSHING BACK HISTORY'

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 16 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

The great leader of the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Noor Mohammad Taraki, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of RC, while talking to the elders and representatives of various places of the DRA at the People's House recently said: "Our ship will soon reach that coast. However, these foreigners are acting against this ship and interfere in its affairs. They want to get this ship drowned. We are ready not to let any body get this ship drowned and no body can indeed do it. The reactionary circles of Pakistan and the fanatic religious leaders of Iran are especially interfering in our internal affairs".

The fact is that the oppressed peoples of Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan have always been living in peace and brotherhood

with one another. They have followed this way despite the colonialistic collusions and desperate efforts of the treacherous kings and autocrats in these countries.

The noble and progressive people of Iran upon establishment of the khalqi regime in Afghanistan were indeed happy as they envisaged our revolution as the dawn of similar revolutions in their own country and other parts of our region, which have been crushed under the iron heels of the exploiters for years.

The noble people of Iran were happy to do away with the king and the monarchical regime as the sworn servant of imperialism. But unfortunately ousting of the king not only did no good to them but also put them under even worse condition.

That is to say on one hand they have been delivered from the monarchical regime but on the other hand they were trapped in a reactionary and fanatic regime which is far

more under the influence of the imperialism and exploiters.

The imperialists, in effect, upon seeing the advent of a such progressive and peoples regime in Afghanistan were afraid of people's power and thought that no more the shah, with his clear identification as the servant of imperialism and the greatest supporter of the exploiters in Iran, can continue in that country. Therefore, the imperialists worked out for creation of another plot against the noble people of Iran and against the liberated progressive movements of the region. That plot was the promotion of a few traditional-minded fanatics, old thinkers and reactionary elements who, without realising the needs and wants of the Iranian noble people, are stubbornly pushing back the wheel of history in Iran and in the region. These religious fanatics, without being aware of

administrative and government affairs, are shamelessly playing with the life and destiny of our Iranian brothers.

These reactionary fanatics leaders of Iran disregard their own difficult problems and try to intervene in the internal affairs of others. These shameless reactionary fanatic leaders of Iran are trying to recruit, for their inauspicious objectives, faith and religion and create discord between Shiite and Sunni in this part of the world.

If they are really for the good of the Iranian noble people they should try to set plans and projects for the general wellbeing of the people of Iran like those worked out in Afghanistan.

If they are really sincere in their claim to serve the cause of Iran, they should, instead of killing, raiding and hatching plots, try to handle government affairs efficiently and work out an efficient administration to cope with the needs and requirements of the time and people.

But it is clear that they are not sincere to their claim and they are by no means for the good of the people. They have been brought about by the imperialists to just rule the country temporarily, crush the people, kill the liberal-minded figures and create an atmosphere of terror and suffocation in the interest of the imperialists.

CSO: 4920

SHARI'AT-MADARI REPORTED FINANCING IRANIAN LEADERS IN DRA

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 18 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

It has been some weeks now that we are constantly and continually publishing documents on the illegal and inhuman interventions of the strangers and foreign elements in our internal affairs. Guns, machine guns, bombs and explosives with the marks of certain countries of the region and the world have been shown over television and published in the papers. Publications and propaganda materials have been caught from the agents of the black reaction and imperialism and shown to our people. The question of training of some treacherous insurgents by the experts of certain neighbouring countries has been proved not only through documents and fugitives but through the media of communication of the neighbouring countries as well.

Regardless of the aforementioned issues, as a clear sign of interference in our internal affairs, we have published just yesterday a document signed by an Ayatullah, that is Sayed Mohammad Kazim Shariat Madari of Iran.

On the basis of this document a large sum of money has been sent to some treacherous agents of the fanatic religious leaders of Iran in Afghanistan. These agents are nothing else but the infiltrators of the reactionary fanatic leaders of Iran into our sacred land.

The document reveals that the treacherous Ayatullahs, these made-in Paris Maulanas, have collusions with certain elements in Afghanistan and sending treacherously their cash and kind to help their treacherous agents to create tension against the people and the toiling Muslims of Afghanistan.

The document proved that Irani reactionary fanatic leaders, these sworn servants of imperialism, are clearly interfering in our internal affairs. These treacherous interventionists have nothing to say excepting that they say the religion is in danger in Afghanistan. But these traitors are blind and deaf that the great leader of the people of Afghanistan, Noor Mohammad Taraki, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the RC is repeatedly saying and announcing in his lofty talks and speeches that he himself and all the revolutionary figures and the general people of the DRA have the greatest respect to the holy religion of Islam. We not only have great respect for our religion but are providing all facilities for the protection of our lofty religion that is the holy Islam.

As our great leader said recently: "We once again tell you that whatever we do here or whatever tasks we will accomplish here such as our five year development plan and other tasks like the revolutionary decrees are all in conformity with the

Shariat of Mohammad and are not contrary to the order of God."

Our deeds are constantly evaluated by the religious scholars within our land and they are judged by the religious scholars in other parts of the Islamic world and they all agree upon the fact that whatever is carried out here is in total conformity with the holy religion of Islam.

But there are only two groups who call our deed as contrary to the spirit of Islam. One of these groups is the so-called Ayatullahs, these reactionary fanatic leaders of Iran and war-mongers of the region and killers of innocent Iranian brothers. The other group, which is doomed to annihilation, is the Ikhwanushayateen. Both of them are the traditional servants of colonialism and imperialism and they have been spying for years in the interest of the foreign domination.

But "in Afghanistan now everybody recognised these black-faced agents of farangis and everybody who hears their names he will hate them and curse them".

It is clear that they can do nothing to us except to provide ground for their own elimination and temporarily create tension against our lofty revolution and people. Because Afghanistan is now fully strong and stable to deal with these traitors and the other enemies of our people and land.

SABOTEURS CLAIMED TO BE TRAINED BY FOREIGN INSTRUCTORS

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 16 Jul 79 p 1

[Text]

MOSCOW, July 16, (Radio Moscow).—The President of the Executive Board of the Peace and Solidarity Organisation of India in an interview with Tass News Agency said that the social circles of that country have strongly condemned the interference of Pakistani reactionary circles, left extremists and imperialist countries in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

He said: The deserters are being trained in the

special camps in the territory of Pakistan by the Pakistani, Chinese and American trainers for the purpose of sabotage.

The imperialist-trained deserters kill children and old people in their subversive activities and inflict material loss.

In fact, there is no doubt that saboteurs use various types of American, Chinese and Pakistani arms and also from other imperialist countries.

He said: Interference in the internal affairs of the friendly neighbouring country has created concern within the people of India.

The vast progressive forces of India are against the conspiracies of the enemies of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan who want to obstruct the flow of the progressive development of this country.

He said: The Soviet Union and other peace-loving countries are reliable friends of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. He said no power can turn back the invincible khalqi revolution of Afghanistan and it is rapidly taking steps forward everyday.

CSO: 4920

AFGHANISTAN

BALUCHI STUDENTS ANNOUNCE 'AFGHAN REVOLUTION IS THEIR REVOLUTION'

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 12 Jul 79 p 4

[Text] Kabul, July (BAKHTAR)--The VIEW-POINT magazine published from Lahore in one of its recent issues in an article entitled "Alliance With Afghanistan," writes:

The Baluchi students organisation in a statement has called on all workers, peasants, students, intellectuals and toiling people of Pakistan to play their historic role in defending the revolution of Afghanistan and to foil the conspiracies of the imperialist powers and their agents against the Afghan revolution.

The Baluchi students organization has pointed out that the Afghan revolution is their revolution and considers its defence their foremost duty.

The statement adds that no imperialist power in the world can inflict any damage to the Afghan Revolution because the revolutionary government and the valorous Afghan people have such means which can defeat the joint power of reaction and exploitation.

In the statement it is said that the Baluchi students organisation has promised to stand along with the Afghan revolution.

The Baluchi students organisation condemns the strategy of the reactionaries of Pakistan and foreign imperialists who want to use the name of the sacred religion of Islam in order to carry out their ominous objectives and to put the stamp of infidelity on the suppressed people, the youth and intellectuals of Baluchistan.

In one of its recent issues the magazine has written that the propaganda of the reactionary circles of Pakistan in Peshawar city has fully lost its value and prestige of the Pakistan newspapers in Peshawar has come down from the lies they published about Afghanistan.

The people of Peshawar see with their own eyes that everyday two buses depart from the Khybar Chawk of Peshawar for Kabul and two buses arrive

in Peshawar from Kabul every evening. The fruit traders are fully sure that the way is open to them and everything is going properly and those who come to Peshawar bring along no unusual report.

In Peshawar there is much talk about exploitation of the wealthy deserters. Some of them are busy selling fabulous carpets, some buy several-story buildings and some are engaged in other deals. However, much is also heard of the misery of the instigation of sardars and pirs. Most of the destitute deserters want to return home but cannot succeed in it.

CSO: 4920

'PRAVDA' CLAIMS AFGHAN DISSIDENTS USE PAK, PRC ARMS

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 21 Jul 79 p 1

[Text]

July 21, (Bakhtar).—
The daily pravda in one of its recent issues writes: The imperialist circles are hatching conspiracies against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. They are arming and equipping the anti-revolutionary elements who have fled to Pakistan.

Pakistani and Chinese arms and weapons are used for killing civilians in Kunar, Pakthia and other provinces of Afghanistan.

The weapons captured from one of these groups are indicative of the conspiracy launched by the imperialist circles against the construction of a new khalqi Afghanistan.

Similarly the daily Pravda of the Soviet Union in one of its recent issues has carried the opinion of

one of its leaders about the revolution of the people of Afghanistan, as follows:

The western and Peking leaders cannot accept that the people of Afghanistan construct their country and live a new life based on the principles of equality and justice and follow a peaceful policy and a policy of non-alignment.

Like all the people of the Soviet Union I hate any interference in the internal affairs of our friendly and neighbouring country, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. There is no doubt that the people of Afghanistan, with the progressive forces standing besides them, defend the gains of revolution.

CSO: 4920

ANNIVERSARY OF BASTILLE DAY WARMLY RECALLED BY DRA

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES 14 Jul 79 pp 2, 4

[Editorial]

[Text]

Today fourteenth of July is the national day of France. France in the Western Europe is one of the most developed nations as far as political and cultural background is concerned.

The people of France had initiated a revolution at a time when in most parts of the world the oppressed people were being crushed under the iron heels of the despotism and exploiters. But the French Revolution caused the overthrow of the monarchical regime between 1789 to 1793. In effect, it was the first liberation movement of the downtroddens against the tyranny, cruelty and exploitation of the autocrat monarchs.

As a result of the overthrow of the monarchical system France established the First Republic and thereafter up to 1958 the people of this country established five republics on different occasions.

The biggest food producer in Western Europe France is one of the highest industrial countries also. If on one hand France produces and exports agricultural products to various countries in the world, on the other hand it produces sophisticated industrial products and export to various parts of the world.

Its leading crops are wheat, barley, corn, oats, rice, and various kinds of fruits and vegetables. Cattle raising, poultry, forestry and fishing are in large scale in France. It is ranking fourth in beef producing. An important feature of France agriculture is that almost half of its farmers belongs to cooperative unions.

France industries include chemicals, silk, and cotton textile, perfumes, automobiles, aircrafts, ships, plastic and electronic equipment etc.

Having free system of education in all levels as primary, secondary and higher education, France is of the leading countries in view of science, art and culture.

France has been one of the few first countries with which Afghanistan established her relations. It has been for about sixty years now that we have had good relations with France.

The activities of the French archaeological mission carried in Afghanistan are known in the history of the relations of the two nations. Archaeological excavations, data analysis, description of different aspects of the relics unearthed have been done by the scholarly minds of French experts.

A number of Afghans have studied in various fields in France. France has

helped us for a long time in operation of a school, in which the French language is taught as a foreign language, in Kabul of which so far we have many graduates who are carrying out constructive works for their homeland. The cultural cooperation of France is still going on here. The French Cultural Center is conducting language courses from time to time and holding many exhibitions and displays.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, under our Great Leader Dear Mohammad Taraki, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the RC, is always desirous to have friendly relations with all countries of the world. This desire stems from our peaceful policy of co-existence with all peoples of the world based on our non-aligned, active and positive policy and free judgement on the world issues.

The DRA is accepting assistance of the different countries of the world as far as it is without any string and condition.

While today is a great occasion for the people of France as they are celebrating their national day we would like to share the joy of the peoples of France on this day and extend our congratulations and best wishes to the people and government of France.

COMMENTS ON DRA BY COMMUNIST PARTY ORGAN OF VIETNAM

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 24 Jul 79 p 2

[Text] (This article published in the "Nhan Dan"—Central Organ of Communist Party of Vietnam on June 13, 1979)

To fully support the revolutionary administration, to firmly crush out any schemes and sabotages of enemies for defending and promoting the gains of Great Saur Revolution is the iron-determination of Afghan people. Since over one month up to now, in the whole country from the city to the village, from the factory to the construction site, from the capital-Kabul to the border—area city, in everywhere there is great revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses. Hundred thousands of the peoples comprising workers, peasants, students and other strata of the toilers; there are also delegates from all tribes of different provinces, the Mullahs have participated in meetings and demonstrations, expressing their deeply close sentiments with the revolutionary administration and aspirations to go forward to the way: to defend sovereignty and territorial integrity and to build the new progressive society void of exploitation of man by man.

All the massive strata of Afghan people completely believe and support the revolutionary administration because it is real regime of the people and it works for the people. The State of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has just been established over than one year, but there are many deeply changes that happened in that country. Under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and Revolutionary Council headed by Comrade Noor Mohammad Taraki, the revolutionary land reforms, carried out less than six months, has been successfully accomplished. More than 11 millions of the poor peasants (75% of the whole country's population) have cleaned out their shortage. All the lands of feudalist power and the aristocrats have been confiscated, and now it is belonging to the State farms, agricultural cooperatives or distributing to the poor peasants. According to the last report of Minister of Agriculture and Land Reforms so far nearly half million hectare of lands have been distributed free of charge to the 150,

000 families of poor peasants and nomads. For the first time in history of Afghanistan, the land issue has been completely and democratically settled. The equal right among the nationalities, between men and women has implemented. There are also many important changes in the cultural, educational and public health fields. The whole country of Afghanistan now is a great construction site; all the people are very happy to put their hands into the implementation of first five-year plan (1979—1984) for building the material and technological base of national economy and step by step to move this country to go ahead towards prosperity and happiness.

Of course, the opposed elements, first of all the bourgeois aristocrats and reactionary religionists have responded very fanatically to the strong measures of revolutionary administration. By the assistance of imperialism and international reactionary circles. They have unleashed the anti-revolutionary rebellion in Herat at the end of March, 1979. But th-

ey have been strongly punished by the revolutionary administration and Afghan people. Not to take the lesson from their defeat in Herat, the reactionaries at home and abroad are stubbornly continuing their activities against this new regime.

With the help of imperialism and international reactionaries, the Afghan anti-reactionaries will be able to cause some difficulties for the revolutionary administration. But absolutely they can not reverse the developing process of Afghan revolution.

In the warm response to the appeal of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and revolutionary Council everywhere in the country, the committees for defence of revolution are being formed with the participation of toiling people. To stand side by side with the armed forces all the strata of Afghan people have raised up to make the strongest wall and be ready to crush out all the aggressive schemes of enemies for defending the gains of revolution.

CSO: 4920

AFGHANISTAN

FRG TO PROVIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 16 Jul 79 p 3

[Text]

KABUL July 16, (Bakhtar).—The first, second and third phases of the second telecommunication project of the Ministry of Communications was signed in Kabul yesterday in the presence of Khalilullah Kohestani, deputy communications minister at the Ministry of Communications and Siemens Company of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The project is part of the five year plan of the DRA and will be financed from the 25 million DM credit of the FRG.

This agreement constitutes a part of the third phase of the second telecommunication project which includ-

es power supply equipment and those of the cable connection and carrier stations of the northern part of Afghanistan. The equipment needed for the carrier stations has been imported from Japan. The agreement to this effect was signed with N.I. S Company of that country.

With the installation of this station communication facilities will be expanded between centre and northern regions of the country.

The total cost of the above equipment is estimated at 363,128.25 DM which will reach here within twelve months.

CSO: 4920

SUPPLEMENTARY STEPS FOR LAND REFORMS PROJECT

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 24 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Further Measures to Help Peasants"]

[Text] The noble peasants of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan who have received land free of charge, as a result of the Democratic Land Reforms, are harvesting their lands. Their cheers and joys could be noticed when one sees them in person.

However, the reporters of this paper in various parts of the country have seen the peasants and contacted them in a bid to find out their real sentiments. Their reports and interviews have been published in this paper.

The interviews and reports clearly show that the peasants are highly appreciating the establishment of the khalqi regime. They further expressed their appreciations for the lofty gains of our great revolution. Above all, the democratic land reforms, as a result of which more than three million jeribs of land have been distributed to more than three hundred thousand households, is one of the gains to which the peasants are attaching the greatest importance.

The peasants of the DRA are not happy just because they have acquired land. They are happy because the cruelty, tyranny, discrimination and exploitation have died away in this land. They are happy that from now on no one can exploit them for his personal end. They are joyous to see everybody live in this country on the basis of a highly progressive social justice. And they are happy to see that the tyrant feudals have been wiped out in the DRA and instead the foundation stone has been laid down by our progressive khalqi regime for a classless society.

The implementation of the first phase of the Democratic Land Reforms in the DRA has paved the way for further progressive steps to this end. As our respected readers may be aware that the high Commission for Helping the Peasants held its meeting under chairmanship of Dr Saleh Mohammad Zeary, the minister of agriculture and land reforms to discuss and decide on related issues including distributing the improved seeds, chemical fertilizer, insecticides and cash credits to the peasants.

To furnish these services our Khalqi government, in effect, is providing necessary facilities to the peasants to improve their production capacity quantitatively and qualitatively. The close attention focussed by our khalqi regime on the cause of our people and for the blossoming of the economic and social life of our noble citizens will pave the way for implementation of other progressive phases of the democratic land reforms in the future time. That is to say as time goes by our land reforms as well as other gains of our democratic regime will further progress to the vested interests of the noble and progressive people of this country.

We are certain that upon realisation of the democratic land reforms and other gains of our Khalqi revolution more cooperation will be achieved between our Khalqi state and our people with the object to build a new society in the benefit of all toilers or a society in which no class enmity and class discrimination would exist.

CSO: 4920

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES--Kabul, July 12, (BAKHTAR)--Tkmakov, member of the Council and President of Foreign Liaison of State Committee for Higher and Vocational Education of Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, heading a delegation, arrived in Kabul yesterday for an official visit. The delegation was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Eng. Peer Mohammad Zeary, deputy minister of higher education, Abdul Kadir Ashna, president of Foreign Liaison and Cultural Affairs Department and Eng. Mohammad Osman, president of vocational education of the Ministry of Higher Education. The Soviet delegation is scheduled to visit the higher and vocational education institutes in Afghanistan and hold talks on expansion of cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 12 Jul 79 p 4]

PRC COTTON ACCORD SIGNED--Kabul, July 15 (BAKHTAR)--The accord on the export of 5,000 tons cotton worth 7,275,000 US dollars was signed with the People's Republic of China in Kabul yesterday. The agreement was signed by Zabiullah Saifi, head of the Herat Cotton Co. Agency and Li, commercial attache of Embassy of China to Kabul. With the signing of this accord, of the 5,000 tons cotton, 3,500 tons will be sent to China in Assad and the remaining 1,500 tons in the month of Mizan this year. [Text] [Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 16 Jul 79 p 3]

CSO: 4920

ARAB PRESS IN LONDON CRITICIZED

Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 2 Jul 79 pp 6-8

[Article by 'Abd al-'Aziz Khamis: "Dollars and Lost Writers in London"]

[Excerpts] I left the hotel where I usually stay during my visits to London. Before that, I had put my suitcases in order and washed my face to refresh myself from my long trip from Cairo to the British capital. I crossed Cumberland Street to the pavement opposite to Marble Arch, heading towards Oxford Street, a haunting place for most of the Egyptians and Arabs living in London. I was looking for something other than the things I used to see in the famous street.

I must admit that the only change I discovered was the bundles of Arabic newspapers and magazines laid on the street pavement in front of the news-stands. There were copies of ROSE AL-YUSUF laid side by side to 23 YULYO (23 JULY), AKHIR SA'AH to the side of AL-DUSTUR and AL-HAWADITH and AL-AHRAM to the side of AL-ARAB. The client newspapers and magazines which drain the petrodollars of our Arab brothers from the steadfast and rejectionist states, as they like to call themselves, lying to the side of our national newspapers and magazines, offered for sale to the Arab readers who crowded the London hotels and furnished apartments!

As a journalist, I could not resist the attraction. I bought a set of the petrol newspapers and magazines and carried them back to my room in the hotel to read them.

An Egyptian Magazine!

I paused pondering the 23 JULY cover which identified the magazine as an "Egyptian" periodical. Yes, by God...an Egyptian magazine publishing in London to serve the interests of Egypt and the Arab homeland!

The artist who drew the picture shown on the cover of the magazine was a "colleague" who claimed to be ill and who through the generosity of the government and the response of the Egyptian Press Association was sent to London for medical treatment to be paid for by the Egyptian tax payers:

farmers, workers and others. But the petrodollars were stronger and more abundant than the Egyptian pounds. So, he was allured by them. He chose to live in luxury in Britain, under the shade of the trees in Hyde Park or in the Playboy nightclubs and the brothels of Soho, rather than share with his fellow countrymen the hardships of waiting in line before the consumer cooperative stores or the autobuses!

Turning the pages of the 23 JULY magazine, my eyes ran through a number of cheap and trifle press reports slandering the homeland and written by journalists who sold themselves to Satan. One of the articles in the magazine was entitled "Memoirs of Ali Sabri," the brain and organizer of the Centers of Power League which was deposed by the Corrective Revolution of 15 May 1971! The magazine also carried a false and deceptive report on Egypt's debts in the era of the open-door economic policy. The report is based on comparing these debts with Egypt's indebtedness during the regime of the former President Abdul Nasir. The report was written by a journalist who had to escape from the country after being accused of provoking and participating in the acts of vandalism and looting that plagued Egypt on 18 and 19 January 1977. I was shocked to read his report claiming that Egypt's debts during Nasir's regime amounted to 200 million Egyptian pounds only. This is completely untrue. It is enough to say that the rescheduling of loans crisis between Egypt and the Soviet Union was caused by the enormity of those debts inherited from the Nasir regime!

I could never imagine that an Egyptian military leader such as Lieutenant General al-Shadhli, who lived and witnessed the eternal October War in the field, could degenerate to such an abyss. The man is trying hard to overcome the serious crises he suffered since his miscalculation led to the creation of the Daversoir gap. He is defending his blunder with cheap words and false allegations. In the same edition of the 23 JULY magazine, I read an article written by al-Shadhli in which he said "The doors are closed before Sadat as to be swayed by despair."

What a strange statement coming from a man who is not a writer by profession. Has he forgotten that Sadat, who is the target of his attack now, had honored him and appointed him as the Egyptian ambassador to Britain and later to Portugal, allowing him one chance after another to overcome the crisis of his deterioration....

Confidential:

Failing to innovate or come out with something new, the 23 JULY magazine steals from ROSE AL-YUSUF one of its permanent columns entitled "Confidential" to be filled with fabrications and nonsense.

As an example of the kind of lies published in the 23 JULY was a report saying that it was decided to extend the assignment of some agents of the Egyptian intelligence services to London, although they had been scheduled to be transferred, because of their experience in putting the 23 JULY and its staff under their surveillance!!

Another example of its lies was a report saying that the Egyptian ambassador to London Muhammad Samih Anwar expressed his regrets for the involuntary actions he had to take in respect of the Arab League office in London. He was quoted as saying to an Arab ambassador in the British capital, "By God, I had to do that against my will. I am sorry, but what can an official like me do except obey the instructions"!!

A third example: The magazine reported the following: "In a private conversation with an official of the Egyptian government, Muhammad Samih Anwar, the Egyptian ambassador in London, said that President Sadat had offered him the position of minister of foreign affairs, but he had gracefully declined the offer because he could not shoulder the 'responsibility of Sadat' since the patriotic ambassador did not agree with Sadat's policies!" He went on to say that in his present capacity, he could not but carry out the instructions from Cairo and that--in his words--"to do so is better than seclusion at home."

There are many other examples showing that such people have sold themselves in return for a handful of petrodollars. They know nothing about the current developments in Egypt. They left Egypt a long time ago to the oil-rich Arab countries. They traveled from one country to another until those states thought that their cliency could be exploited abroad. Some of them were sent to Paris and others to London. They were flooded with money and the yellow press they published was financed by the petrodollars. They used these papers to vent their hatred and mean attacks against their homeland which now disowns them after waiting so long for them to repent and giving them one chance after another to purge their souls and be reformed.

Mercenary Activities:

While visiting the Egyptian Embassy in London, I was keen to meet our Ambassador Muhammad Samih Anwar and ask him what he thought of the Arabic yellow press which chose the capital of the Anglo-Saxons as its headquarters. He said that in the aftermath of the civil war in Lebanon, and more specifically, a year ago, London became the main center of the activities of the mercenary Arabic press.

He told me that the first Arabic paper, published in London, was AL-ARAB. It is now 2 years old. It was followed by another daily, AL-SHARQ AL-AWASAT which first appeared a year ago. Weekly magazines also began to publish in London, including AL-MANAR, which later disappeared, AL-DUSTUR, AL-HAWADITH, AL-MAWQIF AL-ARABI and lastly 23 YULYO (JULY).

AL-ARAB, published by Ahmad Salihain al-Honi and Rashad al-Honi, both of Libyan origin, adopts the attitude of the rejectionist states, although its co-publishers attempt to stress that they are independents.

The hidden policy of AL-ARAB was exposed when one of its co-publishers went back to Libya and returned to London with a flood of advertisements.

We all know that ads are the backdoor for financing the press. However, what makes the ads published in AL-ARAB unique, lies in the fact that most of them center around the so-called "Green Book" which discusses the nightmares of the Madman of Libya.

Al-Honi sent one of his staffers to cover the Baghdad conference, implying a desire for an Iraqi subsidy to be paid during the failing conference.

In any case, AL-ARAB newspaper openly attacks the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel with articles written by Egyptians and Palestinians. These articles reveal the real identity of the newspaper.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWASAT daily is published by two Saudi nationals and brothers: Hisham and Muhammad Ali Hafiz. Its chief editor, Jihad al-Kharin, is a Syrian of Palestinian origin. He is assisted by a Syrian national, 'Irfan Nizam Eddine. Since it started publication and until the beginning of the talks at Camp David, this paper was pro-Egyptian. But since the end of the Camp David negotiations, the newspaper allowed Nasireddine al-Nashashbi, the descendant of the Palestinian treachery, to attack Egypt and President Sadat and thus shifted its course to become an organ of the rejectionists. It is now following a course which we can describe as attempting to maintain the least of links with Egypt, as evidenced by its fairly good coverage of the celebrations of the return of el-'Arish to Egyptian sovereignty and the raising of the Egyptian flag over the city. At the same time, the paper is full of anti-Egyptian articles.

We can safely say that AL-SHARQ AL-AWASAT expresses very accurately the current Saudi attitude towards Egypt. Its articles follow this line and reveal the newspaper's orientation.

The most hostile Arabic magazine to Egypt and its policies is AL-DUSTUR. This is natural because this periodical is published by Iraqis and financed by Iraqi funds. If judged on the basis of journalistic standards--and this is a true testimony--the magazine is rich in material and very well written and edited. Its editorial staff is mostly Iraqis and Palestinians.

We, in Egypt, know very well AL-HAWADITH weekly and its publisher Salim al-Louzi. The man learned his trade during the many years he worked for ROSE AL-YUSUF. Recently, AL-HAWADITH was sold twice to the Saudis. This reveals its orientation, although Salim al-Louzi tries to make his weekly appear as Lebanese oriented. In any case, the magazine is rejectionist and expresses the views of the rejectionists.

The 4-month-old AL-MAWQIF AL-ARABI magazine specializes in attacking Egypt, President Sadat and the peace treaty. Its style is mean, and the least that can be said about the terms it uses in its attacks is that they are vulgar and vile. As the Arabic proverb says: "If you know why, you will not be astonished." The magazine depends wholly on Iraqi dinars for its financing!!

My last remark is about the 23 JULY magazine. This periodical came into being when the Iraqi anti-Egyptian policy tended towards the establishment of a special magazine to be staffed by renegade Egyptian writers. Its editorial staff includes Mahmoud al-Sa'dani, Muhammad Mahfuz, Nur al-Asyyid, George al-Bahjouri, Fathi Khalil, Salah al-Liathi, 'Abd al-Qadir Shuhaib and 'Asim Hanafi. It is a magazine full of obscenity, slander and false news. Furthermore, it clearly identifies itself with former President Gamal Abdul Nasir and the so-called Nasirism!!

6800

CSO: 4802

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT DISCUSSED

Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 2 Aug 79 p 2

[Text]

The agricultural co-operative movement in the country following July 17-30 Revolution witnessed a tangible development and took new dimensions whether through developing the existing cooperatives or organizing peasants in the field of collective agricultural production.

The quantitative development, which was witnessed by cooperatives came along with the Revolution's goals and (ABSP) principles; the Leader of the Revolutionary march and social and economic transformations in the country, keeps pace with the economic and social policy applied by the Revolutionary Leadership since the first days of July 17-30 glorious Revolution and the great support paid to the agricultural cooperative movement.

Development represented by the increase in the number of local agricultural cooperative from (433) cooperatives prior to 17 July Revolution including 58,000 peasant families and occupying an area of (3) million donums to (1000) agricultural cooperatives following the Revolution occupying an area of (23)

million donums and the number of its members is (360) thousand and also (245) joint agricultural cooperatives were established including (2040) local cooperatives.

The development involved also the increase of the types of crops marketed by these cooperatives from (6) types to (17) together with increasing the quantities marketed by these cooperatives from (2028) tons of wheat and (185) tons of barley in 1967-1968 to (400,000) tons of wheat and barley and (28) thousand tons of maize in 1978 and their marketing was restricted to the agricultural cooperatives. Also, 709,000 tons of vegetables, 155,000 tons of fruits and 238,000 tons of tomato were marketed last year.

In 1978, the projects of meat chickens belonging to the agricultural cooperatives reached 474 projects including (609) poultry halls with a production capacity of (12) million kg. while projects of sheep breeding reached (187) projects including (93) thousand heads,

(94) projects for calves fattening including 15,000 heads, (65) projects for sheep fattening with a capacity of 41,000 heads and 11 projects for cows and buffalos breeding with a capacity of (1474) heads.

Cooperatives had also possessed (8614) small and big pumps, 769 tractors, (140) reapers, (353) trucks in addition to thousands of equipment and agricultural machinery. It had also established collective orchards with an area of 4,000 donums in addition to the establishment of 79 collective farms including about 8,000 peasants and occupying an area of 717,000 donums on which 3107 primary 140 intermediate and secondary schools, (688) sanitary centres and clinics, (300) units for water purification 80,000 residential units and (356) centres for rural woman guidance and social activities were established.

The Leadership of the Party and Revolution had contributed alot in supporting the agricultural cooperative movement as it is a

basic means for changing agriculture and the rural society. This support was represented by the increasing loans granted to cooperatives where they reached about 1D. (26) million last year which means that they were doubled (100) times against those prior to the Revolution where the total of the granted lands for cooperatives did not exceed 1D 263 thousand.

In this domain agricultural requirements were provided free of charge and low charges for lands, water, plant protection and agricultural machinery, supporting prices of fertilizers, industrialized fodder and machinery prices, receiving agricultural commodities and protecting peasants from exploitation of middlemen and merchants, providing cadres for cooperative movement, establishing modern villages, social establishments, animal breeding pens, veterinary clinics, providing improved seeds, fertilizers... etc. and preparing cooperative legislations and regulations which facilitate their works and encourage peasants to join them.

INA REPORT

CSO: 4820

BRIEFS

HARVEST RESULTS--Baghdad, 29 Jul 79--The harvested area of wheat and barley which was recently completed has reached 2,896,300 donums of land. Sources in the Public Agency for Agricultural Stores and Silos said that the harvest is now concentrated in three or four regions including the provinces of Tamin, Ninevah, Arbil, Sulaymaniyyah, Dohuk, Diyyali, and Salah al-Din. This brings to 95 percent of the total of lands needing harvesting according to the Agency which should bring the final harvest figures to 3,062,500 donums. Participating in this work is a team of 1,881 harvesters working on a cooperative basis from field to field after being transported from one region already completed. The area in which the harvest of first and second regions has been finished--that is in Basrah and Dhi Qar, Muthanna, and Qadiisiya, Maysan, Wassit, and Babal, Anhar and Diyyali, and Salah al-Din provinces--has already reached 812,000 donums. [Excerpt] [Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 29 Jul 79 p4]

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT TRENDS--Baghdad, 1 Aug 79--The ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform decided to prepare a working paper embracing the current agricultural development trends and work-level indicators for the ministry for the coming five year plan of 1981-1985. Toward this end a committee was formed under the direction of Dr Samal Majid Faraj, agent of the ministry for Services. Its members include Tariq Jabbur, general director of planning and continuing operations in the Public Agency for Marketing, Salah 'Abd al-Wahhab Ma'awun, general director of the office for planning and continuing operation. [Text] [Baghdad AL-IRAQ in Arabic 1 Aug 79 p 4]

EXPORTS NOTED--Baghdad, 29 Jul 79--The total amount of fertilizer exported to the world markets in the first seven months of this year has reached 150,000 tons. The markets which the Iraqi Company for Exports trades with are Pakistan, Red China, India, Jordan, Somalia, and Bangladesh. [Text] [Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 29 Jul 79 p 5]

CEMENT PLANT PROJECT--Baghdad, 29 Jul 79--On the occasion of the glorious 17-30 July Revolution, Tahir Tawfiq, member of the RCC and minister of industry and minerals, will open tomorrow the cement project of Hamam al-'Alil in Ninevah province [near Mawsil]. The total expenditure for this project--which will inaugurate 300 new work opportunities for workers, technicians, and managers--will reach 18.25 million dinars. Its production capacity will reach 500,000 tons of cement yearly. The ministry has already this month laid the foundation stone for another cement plant on the upper Euphrates with a capacity of 2 million tons annually at a cost of 60 million dinars. [Text] [Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 29 Jul 79 p 5]

NEW INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS--Baghdad, 1 Aug 79--During the coming 3 months experimental work on three new projects for concrete blocks, conduits, ceramics and tiles will begin. A responsible source in the Ministry of Industry and Minerals mentioned that the projects would comprise a factory for concrete blocks in Abu Ghurayb with an annual output of 36 million blocks. The first step in its experimental production will take place in the beginning of next month, which is hoped to put the second and third steps directly into operation during late September. Similarly the concrete conduit plant also in Abu Ghurayb will be put into operation at full capacity of 120,000 tons yearly during the coming November. The source said that it will put into operation in September an experimental plant for tiles and ceramics in the town of al-Fallujah in al-Anbar province. It will have an output of 35 million pieces yearly which will guarantee the requirements of the developmental plans. [Text] [Baghdad AL-IRAQ in Arabic 1 Aug 79 p 4]

CSO: 4802

BEGIN GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENTS POLICY CRITICIZED

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 15 Jun 79 p 13

[Article by Gerson Shoken: "The 'Settlements' Isolate Israel"]

[Text] The "settlement" at Alon-Moreh is not improper because it imposes upon Anwar Sadat; it also is not improper because the Americans say it is contrary to international law and disturbs the peace process, and not because residents of the held territories oppose it. Of course these are three opposing arguments of considerable weight (not all of equal weight), that should not have been ignored prior to execution of the "settlement" by secretive commando action. However, the principal reasons that this "settlement" and the other "settlements" of Gush Emunim directed by Arik Sharon, are different, are only reasons that revolve around us, Jews and Israelis.

The first reason is that the citizens of Israel and the Jewish nation abroad do not have the human resources to settle the West Bank the way they settled the coastal plain from Ashkelon to Naharia and the Jezreel Valley. Also within the borders of the green line Israel is increasingly troubled by a growing demographic problem. The yelps of the Jewish residents of the Galil about the danger of being a minority that is threatening them due to the rapid growth of the volume of the Arab population, and every publication of demographic statistics demonstrate the severity of the problem. Even if—between the Six Day War and the Yom Kipper War—between half a million and a million Jews had settled the West Bank, the problem facing us today would not have disappeared. But there is no doubt that our condition would have been better, as it is better in Jerusalem where the number of Jewish residents grew measurably during the last 12 years.

But even if such a large settlement had been carried out in those years, there would be living in the West Bank today no less—and apparently more—Arabs than Jews and we could expect all the same problems from which we were saved in the State of Israel that is within the ceasefire lines of 1949, as a result of the exit of most of the Arab residents after the Independence War. The small groups of Gush Emunim fanatics cannot execute any settlement action worthy of the name. They are only capable of

creating agitation points and agitating the Arab residents of the West Bank, and they indeed carry out this job with growing severity.

The second reason for which the "settlement" at Alon-Moreh and the rest of the Gush Emunim settlements are improper is that if we truly wanted to build them, and if the relations of forces were such that this would be possible, they would of necessity change in time the Arab population, which will be in any case 80 or 90 percent of the population of the West Bank, to subjects or third class citizens. This is impossible, because today nowhere for long can there be rule of the minority over a majority, and it also is undesirable--because a conquering government such as this corrupts the conquerors, and this process increased in Israel to no small degree following June 1967.

The solely fanatic nationalistic motivation--to differentiate from the settlement motivation--of settlement in Alon Moreh was exemplified when after the execution of the settlement the argument began over whether the settlement should be agricultural or urban. This discussion is carried on among various people of the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency, and between them and members of the settlement committee of Arik Sharon, and again--in the most stunning form--the voice of the "settlers" themselves is not heard at all. They apparently do not care, and their principal purpose is to demonstrate a presence in face of the residents of Nablus during the most sensitive period of the beginning of the negotiations on the future of the territories. Their voice will certainly be heard in the future when the discussion is held on reparations, which we will be asked to pay them in return for their leaving the area.

The settlement policy executed by the Begin government--whether on its own initiative, or rather being dragged after Gush Emunim fanatics--uproots the relations of Israel with our protecting great power so far, but this process is now just beginning. If a far-reaching change does not occur in the Israeli policy toward the held territories, the Begin government or that which follows, will face the interesting problem of how to carry out Israel's matters without any political support in the international amphitheater and without the American material support which has enabled us to exist since the Six Day War.

The settlement policy also dealt a severe blow to the support Israel has received until now from U.S. Jewry. This support in any case was not promised for all time to the same degree that we enjoyed it in the days of the founding of the State and in the days of the 1967 crisis. The reasons for this are many, and are connected with changes occurring in American Jewry, of which a growing number can already be called "Americans of Jewish descent" and because of our lack of success in Israel in developing a society of positive image which would be attractive in the eyes of the nations of the free world.

No longer does the kibbutz society typify Israeli society in the eyes of the observer or outside guest, but rather somewhat less sympathetic social

phenomena. The weakening of support by American Jewry could have been a gradual long-range process, and it could possibly have been stopped in time and redirected, if we had succeeded in correcting the deficiencies in our society. The "settlement" policy, which is not acceptable to the majority of active Jews in the United States despite their warnings to Mr Begin since the control of the government came into his hands, increases the speed of the negative process, and the result is that the State of Israel, as represented by the Begin government, will stand bare and without allies in the fateful discussion with the U.S. government, while the United States will receive support for her position from all the world on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

9182

CSO: 4805

OPENING SESSION ON AUTONOMY SAID STRAINED

Tel Aviv HAMODI'A in Hebrew 12 Jun 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Opening in a Dirty Atmosphere"]

[Text] The discussions on establishment of an authority for an independent government in Judaea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip opened yesterday in a muddled atmosphere. Things were better left unsaid, had they not been written or occurred, but still there is not enough in them to warrant a gloomy outlook for the discussions. Such things have occurred in the past and anyone who knows a little about the structure of relations in the East does not get excited, neither at times when political leaders look and sound full of joy, nor when they toss insults at each other.

Musa Sabri, chief editor of the Cairo newspaper AL AKHBAR established a new semantic when he gave Begin the juicy title of "snake's head," "before this manages to inject his venom." We would not have advised any Israeli newspaper to pay Mr Sabri his due and to crown Egypt's president with his due title, when he comes to take from Israel, with the sneakiness of a snake, what it does not have to give him. We leave this pleasure to Egypt. There the political pendulum swings like the weather. Mr Begin had already received the honorable title "Shylock," which he was called in Egypt when it appeared to them that Mr Begin was unwilling to accept dictation from Cairo.

It is not necessary to get too excited, it must be remembered that many Israelis said unnecessary things. Mr Weizman yesterday was forced to work hard to pacify members of his delegation to the discussions in Alexandria, to remove the sting from things he had said at the Herut convention, words destined only to make real the dangers, and on no account should the president of Egypt have related to these words as seriously as he did, that if Egypt would break the treaty Israel would have to return to the Sinai, the time and the place and the connection in which they were said should remove the sting from them [sic]. Also Defense Minister Weizman would do better if he did not try so hard to get those names which he also won in the past when he was overexcited about the negotiations with Egypt. It appears that Mr Weizman was also influenced, without being aware of it, by the political etiquette structure characteristic of the East.

However, it would not be right for us to ignore the background on which these expressions arose. In Cairo there is an atmosphere of impatience. There is a desire to see greater advances which will enable the president of Egypt to repel the attacks on him from the Arab world. The subject of the autonomy is very sensitive. There is the desire to pacify the Palestinians, to prove to them that no one is more worried about them than the president of Egypt; achievements in this matter are demanded of him, quick achievements. Egypt calls them gestures. And when Israel is not jumping to fill these desires, Egypt reveals impatience. There is no doubt that the newspaper AL AKHBAR was directed by a high ranking figure in Egypt to attack Mr Begin, the intention being to defeat him, in order to receive a concession from him on this matter as well.

The settlement question in all its severity as was expressed in the opening speeches is no more than a symptom. It emphasizes the deep gap separating the positions of the two sides. The worrisome thing in the incident is the serious revelation that there was prior coordination between Egypt and the United States in everything relating to the autonomy, and that Egypt insists that the United States become an equal partner in the discussions and not be merely a go-between. This fact is a source of worry to Israel. This is likely to determine the fate of the negotiations, if indeed the United States does throw in its entire political weight. Recent statements of American politicians on the subject of settlements show they agree, and it is unknown where this identification will lead to in the hour of decision.

9182

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ISRAEL

CONCERN SHOWN FOR INCREASING DESERTIONS IN IDF

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 July79 pp 9, 15

[Article by Ze'ev Shif: "Recommendations on How To Combat the Growing Problem of Desertion in the IDF"]

[Text] The phenomenon of deserting soldiers is not at all encouraging, and in recent years there has been a deterioration in this area. The immediate conclusion is that the larger number of deserters points to low discipline in the IDF. This is not necessarily so. There is no doubt that it also shows the inability of the IDF command to instill discipline and authority. The expert psychologists of the IDF are convinced that in this case the phenomenon is not only related to crime, but primarily to difficulties in adjusting which growing numbers of recruits are encountering. One can add that it also points to a decline in motivation—personal and national—by growing numbers of recruits.

The IDF is concerned with this serious problem and is trying to fight it in a number of ways. Recently a directive was issued which substantially changes the definition of a deserter. In the past a soldier who was absent for up to 21 days was considered AWOL, and only after that he was considered to be a deserter. Now anyone absent for 14 days is declared a deserter. The difference is in the seriousness of the offense and the applicable punishment. Whereas absenteeism can end with a disciplinary trial, deserters are tried by military courts and are handed over to military police and the central command.

It is obvious that the change in defining deserters will cause an initial surge in the number of IDF deserters, but it is hoped, in the personnel section of the central command, that this will only be an initial phase and that in the long run it will serve as a deterrent and will bring about a decline in the number of deserters. The reasoning behind this statement is that many repeating offenders know the directive very well, and adjust the length of their absence accordingly. These tend to return to their units before they are declared deserters, etc. These will probably be affected by the new directive, which also includes new procedures—starting with the duty to look for absent soldiers and ending with instructions to apprehend and try them immediately.

The change in the procedure is based on one of the recommendations in the report of the military psychological unit to the chief of the personnel section under the chief of staff, Maj Gen Moshe Nativ. This report, prepared by psychologist Chaim Borkov, isolates—perhaps for the first time—the typical, common factors of the average IDF deserter. It points out his environmental background, where he lives, his psychological and educational makeup and also the preferred period of desertion and the IDF units from which desertion is higher. These data could obviously, facilitate the confrontation with this negative phenomenon.

A Lower Ability Group

The research was probably prompted by the intensification of the desertion problem in recent years. It turns out that since 1972 there has been a marked trend of an increase in the number of deserters. In each of these years there has been a consistent rise in the percentage of deserters from among new recruits. Between 1972 and 1977 there was an increase of 36.5 percent. While in 1972 the percentage of deserters from among new recruits was 4.82, in 1975/76 it was 6.58. This, of course, is not a negligible figure. If one takes into account that about 40 percent of the deserters desert again, then the IDF has to deal with a few thousand desertion cases annually.

Psychologist Borkov has a number of possible explanations for the constant rise in the number of deserters. He names a few hypothetical reasons which have not been examined scientifically. One of them is the delayed emotional reaction to the Yom Kippur War. Other reasons are tied in with administrative decisions within the IDF. In 1974, it was decided to increase the number of recruits by calling to duty segments of the population that are of a lower overall level, people who in the past had not been drafted. Additionally, many who had been released for various reasons were reenlisted. The latter action reached its peak in 1975.

Among those who were drafted one ought to mention a special problem group, whose members had psychological problems. In spite of that, the IDF decided to make an effort and draft them. The directive was to devote many months of their service to studies in a special camp. It is interesting to note that there were fewer deserters from among this group as special treatment of its members intensified and their adjustment to their new surroundings improved. This is in comparison with soldiers from lower levels, but without psychological problems. In other words, preparatory and preventive treatment can have a positive influence on some candidates for desertion.

One of the clear characteristics of the average IDF deserter is that he belongs to a low level quality group. The division of quality levels is on a scale of 41 to 56. The lowest category ranges from 41 to 46; the middle range is from 47 to 50, and that which qualifies for officer rank ranges from 51 to 56. It turns out that about 59 percent of the deserters belong

to the lowest category. As the level goes up to, and including, 44 the percentage of desertion goes up. But it would not be valid to conclude that there are no deserters in the higher categories. About 10 percent of all deserters are from the highest category.

This definitely delineates one common denominator for the typical deserter, his low level of education. A survey conducted in February 1978 showed that 51 percent of the deserters have an 8-year education or less, i.e., less than elementary school. The average formal education of recruits in the IDF is 10.3 years.

Another significant common denominator of deserters is that they do not have a definite military skill or that they have a service skill. On this point, too, a survey was conducted on 2 February 1978, and it turned out that 32 percent of the deserters have no definite military skill, and 18 percent are in service jobs. It also turned out that 16 percent of the deserters on that day were drivers of heavy vehicles. It may very well be that this points to certain conditions in those transportation units, but in general there was a significant number of drivers among deserters (tank drivers, drivers of half trucks, ambulance drivers, but no drivers of light vehicles).

This necessarily points out another common denominator, and that is that many come from specific units. For example, central command and ordnance units. In contrast, the air force and the navy have a very low desertion rate. This is in spite of the fact that these two branches have a large number of service workers or people who are unskilled altogether. It follows that possibly the dealing with potential deserters is better in the navy and the air force than in other branches.

Adjustment Difficulties

Deserters come from all types of settlements in Israel, even kibbutzim are no exception. But whereas 68.3 percent of the 1977 deserters lived in large cities and 23.2 percent in development towns, only 1.1 percent came from kibbutzim. Another 1.5 percent came from villages (such as Elyakin or Kfar 'Adah) and 5.9 percent of that year's deserters came from communal towns.

This is a rather broad picture. It turns out, though, that there are settlements whose recruits tend to be more prone to desertion than others. The snapshot of the situation, taken on 29 April 1978, examined recruits from 38 settlements from throughout the country. The six settlements whose recruits had the lowest desertion rate were: Giv'atayim--1.1 percent; Ramat HaSharon--3.8 percent; Ramat Gan--3.8 percent; Nahariya--5.6 percent; Holon--7 percent; Herzliya--7.5 percent. On the other hand, the six settlements recruits from which had the highest rate of desertion were: Hatzor--33 percent; Yerukham--26.7 percent; Beit She-an--25.1 percent; Dimona--23.4 percent; Migdal HaEmek--22.4 percent; Yavneh--22 percent.

When does the desertion take place generally? There was an attempt to answer this question, too, in the research. It turns out that the peak arrives during the fourth and fifth months of service, and then there is a decline. This decline is particularly steep in the third year of service (only 3 percent). This, too, leads to the conclusion that there is a connection between desertions and the ability of the soldier to adjust to army life and to the new surroundings. One of Borkov's findings is that about 70 percent of the soldiers desert shortly after they are placed, immediately following their basic training.

As to countries of origin—the majority of deserters are of mid-eastern extraction, 80 percent. Of those, 7.3 percent were already born in Israel. It is interesting that only 1.8 percent of the deserters are children of Israeli born parents. Only 16 percent of the deserters are of Western extraction. The number of new immigrants among those is particularly high, 63 percent.

The recommendations of the military psychological unit are based primarily on the basic assumption that the main motivation for desertion is the difficulty encountered by some of the IDF population in adjusting, as well as insufficient social preparation for recruitment. They therefore propose to increase activity in para-military frameworks such as GADNAH and Working Youth, in order to prepare the youngsters for army life. They recommend treating problematic soldiers, who are potential deserters, in a more personal way and introducing them to army life somewhat more gradually. It is recommended to conduct an experiment with such a problematic group, stress treating of personal problems, hold educational and information sessions and tour with them throughout the country. It is also recommended to make an effort to prepare lower level soldiers for more productive IDF skills.

Military jails are also mentioned. It is revealed that those, similar to civilian prisons, stress punishment and neglect the rehabilitation aspect. This is surprising from the point of view of the IDF. Therefore the report suggests that jails for deserters be rehabilitation, military oriented. Soldiers should continue to train in jail rather than sit idle. Moreover, it is recommended that commanders and the original units maintain contact with the deserter while he is in jail. Special seminars are proposed for commanders of units prone to desertion.

These are important recommendations. But it is clear that this is a minimal plan, if one really wants to stop this negative phenomenon of desertion.

8646

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ISRAEL

LIKUD'S FAILURE—WHO IS TO BLAME?

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Jul 79 p 9

[Article: "The Sad Story of Likud's Failure Could Turn Into a National Tragedy"]

[Text] The story of the failure of Likud is a sad one. Impartial foreigners—as well as downright political adversaries—may find something and even entertaining in this sweeping failure, which, as the days go by, assumes the image of a parody on an inept government. It is not true that the government of Likud and its partners is like a circus. In a circus people walk tightropes, professionally, and skillfully, take chances and reach the other side safely. The performance of Likud is more like walking on a thin rope lying on the ground, stumbling and falling, while at the same time making the dramatic motions and grimaces of an upright acrobat.

Anyone to who the fate of Israel—as a society, as an entity, as a civilized country—is dear will consider the failure of Likud as one of the saddest stories ever known. After years of being ruled by one party the impossible happens and the party at the helm changes. A new force assumes office, headed by a prime minister who, from the beginning, enjoys unprecedented popularity. The major opposition is paralyzed and dumbfounded. DASH joins the coalition unconditionally and under terms that Professor Yadin described somewhat earlier as "not crawling on all fours, but on one's stomach." The Egyptian president comes to Israel and the miracle of peace with the largest Arab country becomes a reality.

In spite of all this, in spite of the large majority that the Likud government has in the Knesset, in spite of the continued feuding in the Labor Party, Likud fails on every issue it tackles. The only defense Likud has is that the Alignment was also bad and it now compares itself, during its early phases in power, to the Alignment when it was already on the decline.

This is a sad story for anyone who believes that a changeover is the life-line of a democratic society. It is an even sadder story for anyone who worked for this changeover. It seems that this is a sad story for any loyal Israeli, with the exception of all those minor ministers, whose

chairs, the entourage, the trips to Egypt and the bodyguards are dazzling their minds and blinding their eyes. But these petty people, who will be remembered in the history of Israel in pathetic footnotes, do not represent anything authentic of Israeli society. The sadness of the failure of Likud is what is authentic.

The sad story is accompanied by a real tragedy. The failure of Likud and DASH's betrayal of its voters, give rise to the feeling that we no longer face the failure of individuals and parties. People are beginning to say that it is impossible that ineptness and guilt can only be found within the political stratum and its people. More and more we can hear voices--on the street or over the media--of those who have given up on the ability of Israeli society to function as a civilized society. More and more we hear the reverberation of doubt in our skill at leading ourselves and reforming our way of life. Israel is compared, by respectable papers, to Italy--and when one considers its economic achievements during the past year one can only say this is wishful thinking--to Argentina, Turkey etc. People are telling themselves that this continued failure, in spite of the changeover, points to something deeper. One can even hear serious people claiming that this was the reason why Jewish independence in the past was shortlived, and that there is something deep inside us which prevents the forming of those conditions necessary for the maintenance of a national, independent and civilized society.

These statements are pronounced with the originators not understanding them fully. If Israel stops being a society that is capable of changing and leading itself, it will cease to exist. Unlike Italy, Argentina and Turkey, we will continue to face a mammoth national challenge--external as well as internal--we will continue, for many years, to face an Arab Moslem world which, inspite of the agreement with Egypt, refuses to reconcile itself to our existence here. From within, we will have to continue and live up to the need to live within our means and to remove the barriers that the diaspora has created. We will not be able to face those challenges in the atmosphere of resignation to our backwardness, with a semi-philosophical fatalism regarding our ability to live an independent national life in the full sense of the word. If Israel cannot exist as a renewing society, if it cannot return to the sources of real Zionism, it faces an extremely difficult future, too dark to be put on paper.

Therefore, even if there were any proof for blaming the character of Israeli society or the behavior pattern of the Jews, this author would advise some of his colleagues to be cautious with definite conclusions. Whoever says that "we are all at fault" for Likud's failure says, effectively, that we are all sentences for total deterioration. A regime can be corrected. Political tools can be improved. Certain diseases can be cured. It is very difficult to change a nation.

It follows that blaming the character of Israeli society is tantamount to admitting the failure of the Zionist achievement. Anyone who maintains this

ignores the power of political leadership and the role of the pioneer. He also ignores Israel's lessons of the past and its fantastic ability to overcome crises and difficulties that only a few have faced.

It would therefore be a real tragedy if the sad tale of Likud--the tale of Likud's pathetic failure--were to be blamed on all of Israel. The empty pronouncements, the cliches along the line of "each nation gets what it deserves," will justify themselves if we start believing in them. Therefore, this author would be very cautious before giving in to this obvious temptation of drawing overall social conclusions from the failure of the changeover. We have to be doubly careful of a conclusion such as this when there is no proof and no data. On the contrary--as this author will try to prove--everything points to the fact that we are not "all guilty," that there is no basic something that is part of us which is responsible for the failure, but that it is a political system and unique patterns of behavior.

It is important that we tell this to ourselves.

(First article in a series)

8646

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LIKUD MINISTERS SAID RESPONSIBLE FOR INEPT GOVERNMENT

Tel Aviv HAZOFEN in Hebrew 23 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "No Guidance on Internal Affairs Criticized"]

[Text] Recent economic events have proven that the government's prestige in the public eye has gone down following its indecisiveness on important matter pertaining to the country's economy. At one time the prime minister announced the need to correct "ineptness in government." Unfortunately very little has been done to correct this ineptness. The public has the impression that the government is not united and that every minister pulls in a different direction.

The problem lies mainly with the Likud ministers, since each of them is pulling in a different direction and discipline is very poor.

The image of the government was hurt following a series of failures in everything that pertains to adopting resolutions and carrying them out.

There was a proposal to empower the prime minister to change ministers, especially those who are not popular, much like President Carter did with his Cabinet. This proposal is unrealistic since the government is made up of a federation of factions, each of which is entitled to determine who its ministers will be.

This cannot go on. There is a need for some drastic measures in order to improve the work of the government, especially when it comes to internal affairs. One has the impression that whereas there is a guiding hand on external affairs, there is no leadership on internal affairs, and this is what causes economic and other internal problems. It is only fit to establish some leadership on internal affairs in the Cabinet, a group of ministers, that will free the prime minister from dealing with economic and internal affairs.

The need to establish such a committee, just like the one on external affairs, is immediate.

R646

CSO: 4805

'AGUDAT YISRA'EL'S INFLUENCE IN GOVERNMENT ANALYZED

Jerusalem HAMODI'A in Hebrew 29 Jun 79 p 3

[Commentary: "A Test of 'Agudat Yisra'el's Strength, Failures and Accomplishments Two Years After Signing the Coalition Agreement"]

[Text] It was with good reason that during its meeting of 6 May 79 the Council of Great Torah Scholars expressed deep concern that the "abortion law" is still in effect in its present form, including the terrifying Article 5. This article legalizes the murder of fetuses in their mothers' wombs, and there is no need to elaborate on the terrible implications of such a law.

When the coalition agreement was finalized, a clear promise was given that Article 5 of the law would be abolished, especially since in the last Knesset an accidental majority "sneaked in" a vote on this article and approved it. Essentially, it makes no difference whether or not the introduction of Article 5 has caused the number of abortions to increase, since it is known--and representatives of true Judaism have been pointing it out for years--that there is in our country a wholesale industry of abortions. While we demanded that the law be enforced and doctors be indicted for committing these illegal abortions-murders, the secularists tried very hard to eliminate all legal obstacles and allow these acts to continue with almost no restrictions, and they accomplished their goal during the final days of the Alignment regime.

Unfortunately, the promised change in the law has not been carried out yet, and because of the terrible and immoral nature of Article 5 the Council of Great Torah Scholars demanded during its meeting that of all the sections included in the coalition agreement, this change should be carried out within 2 months. The prime minister promised the 'Agudat Yisra'el representatives that this will be done without any preconditions and that he will not be influenced by the fact that the change will be approved by a one-vote majority; the important thing is that the promise will be honored. It is hoped that he will be able to do so within the next few days.

The coalition agreement was signed on 18 June 1977 and now, 2 years later, it may be worthwhile to review and analyze the agreement and its 43 articles: to examine what has or has not been carried out, what has or has not been corrected or improved. It is essential that we examine a complete picture including both the positive and negative elements.

It seems that the public has the wrong impression that all 43 articles belong to the agreement between the Likud and 'Agudat Yisra'el, and that all articles deal with "our" special problems. When such a wrong impression exists, it is not surprising that it leads to great disappointment and bitterness. The frustration is enhanced perhaps by the fact that the government is not in good shape in general, to say the least. But a thorough analysis of the agreement which was signed between the Likud, 'Agudat Yisra'el and the National Religious Party [NRP] reveals that the public's respect for the government would have increased significantly had its accomplishments in general matters equalled one-fourth of those related to this agreement.

Eight of the 43 articles in the agreement are not "ours" at all, and they do not even deal with religious questions. Seven other articles are in part articles that deal specifically with NRP questions and in part articles which were included in the agreement at the NRP's request, such as matters relating to secondary or vocational Yeshivot, religious councils, the Ministry of Religions, etc.

Eight other articles deal directly with us, and they have all been implemented. These are: independent education--improving attitudes toward it and understanding its special needs (3 articles); military draft of women--this topic was settled even better than had been anticipated, because the agreement spoke of regulations while in reality a new law was legislated; national service--it was promised in the agreement that the government would continue not to enforce this law (the law, of course, has not been enforced, but now--because of a legal problem raised in the High Court of Justice--the government has already prepared a draft of a bill which would absolve the government from enforcing the law and this proposed legislation would be brought for approval by the Knesset next week); due consideration to the orthodox religious education (Yeshivot, religious day schools, etc.)--the implementation of this article has and is being carried out but it is accompanied by a constant struggle with the NRP which is afraid to lose its monopoly on the financial assistance given to the Yeshivot; and the last article in this group, i.e. assurance to 'Agudat Yisra'el representatives in the Knesset of a free hand in all religious matters, has been kept fully and consistently.

The problematic group is that which includes 20 articles which may be defined as "religious-general," i.e. articles which are in the interest of the entire religious public which is organized under 'Agudat Yisra'el and NRP. These are articles part of which were demanded and agreed upon by both parties and were therefore included in the agreement. Some of these articles deal with strict implementation of existing laws, and others deal with new legislation or legislative amendments.

It can be said that in 14 of these 20 articles there has been either a meaningful improvement or complete implementation. Two articles that called for legislation were implemented completely, i.e. "A Bill for Amending the Penal Code (Enticement to Religious Conversion)," which remedies one of the most severe problems of missionary activities; the approval of the law of antiquities which, among others, prevents archeologists from doing whatever they wish with ancient graves or bones.

A group of 10 articles deals with different aspects of Sabbath issues, and in all of these there has been substantive improvement: since the signing of the agreement no new Sabbath-working-permits have been issued; the number of previously issued permits has been reduced; the shameful act of denying jobs to Jews who refuse to violate the Sabbath has been stopped; hundreds of workers who previously violated the Sabbath now enjoy the Sabbath rest; attempts to increase public transportation on Sabbath have been prevented, and some actions have been taken in order to grant legal status to institutions that deal with finding technological solutions for factories and institutions whose activities must be carried on during the Sabbath as well.

One article in the agreement prevents common-law wives from being granted additional rights; this promise has been kept. Another article deals with improving the spiritual absorption of new immigrants and there have been meaningful accomplishments in this area which also includes the absorption of immigrant youth.

Now we come to the last six articles in the agreement. These cannot be lumped together as a group, because each one of them deals with a separate issue. What unites them is the fact that a lot of activity surrounds them and that much progress has been made in most of them. 'Agudat Yisra'el, however, cannot be satisfied yet, and it demands their full implementation.

As to the abortion law, we have already mentioned the prime minister's promise and the hope that the change will go into effect within the next few days, as prominent Likud leaders are making efforts to gather the necessary majority.

As to the law concerning forced autopsies: first, it must be said that the situation in reality has improved immensely, and although there still are cases of cruel cutting of corpses, the situation is still much better than before. The period of MAPAM's control of the Ministry of Health, under the leadership of Barzilay and Shem-Tov, is over and forgotten, there is no longer a spirit of provocation, and Minister Shostak sometimes interfered personally in order to prevent autopsies.

As to legislation: until now no less than six drafts have been prepared, and they have all been changed since they did not satisfy the demands. This legislation was handled by different bodies--legal experts from 'Agudat Yisra'el, members of the Ministry of Health and representatives of the public organizations. At this time negotiations are being conducted concerning the final wording of one of the sections, but the rest of the draft legislation is finalized and agreed upon by both sides, and Minister Shostak has promised to bring the bill before the Knesset soon.

The third of the six articles mentioned above deals with preventing the marketing of pig meat in areas where there is a Jewish population. The Ministry of Justice treats this question favorably, there already exists a draft for a bill, and the Minister of Justice, Mr Tamir, promised that in 3 weeks a solution will be found to problems which might be raised by such legislation, such as a special treatment for gentiles.

Another article is close to a positive solution very soon. It concerns the change from oath to word of honor. As for the article concerning pornographic publications, there has been no progress in legislation, but there has been an encouraging response towards requests to remove blatant pornographic nuisances, such as billboards.

The last, but not least, article deals with the question of "conversion according to the Halakha [Jewish law]." The promises concerning this article were more restrained than those relating to the other articles. Here, unfortunately, no progress has been made, except what was accomplished by passing the preliminary proposal to change the law which was proposed by Rabbi Kalman Kahana and the majority for its passage was mobilized by 'Agudat Yisra'el.

Analysis of the different articles of the coalition agreement--without ignoring its positive and negative sides--gives a balanced picture of reality. Such a description is very much needed today, because 2 years have passed since signing that agreement, and because the true situation must be known.

It seems that in spite of the things which have not been accomplished yet, 'Agudat Yisra'el should receive high marks not only in comparison to the NRP but in absolute terms as well. It is well known that a gap exists between what a political party is committed to accomplish and what is actually accomplished. It should be emphasized that anti-religious legislation (which had been common in previous years in spite of the NRP's participation in the coalition government) has been prevented during the past 2 years; furthermore, meaningful religious gains have been accomplished only as a result of 'Agudat Yisra'el's demands and urgings. The NRP cannot point to even a single gain, except for the dubious accomplishments of repeatedly delaying the elections for the Chief Rabbinate or the appointment of the NRP's leader as the chairman of the ministerial committee on [Palestinian] autonomy; but these do not constitute "religious legislation."

It is worth pointing out that the NRP was not the only party that failed to accomplish any of its demands; all the other coalition partners failed to accomplish anything as well. One of the Democratic Party's ministers expressed his envy of 'Agudat Yisra'el's achievements by saying that if his party had accomplished one percent of the latter's achievements he would have been happy. He was right, because his party's only achievement since the election has been its split. But where are their "seven principles" and where is their promised change in the electoral system? Even a member

of the Likud, MK Berman, the chairman of the Knesset committee, said lately with bitterness: I have not been elected to implement 'Agudat Yisra'el's platform!

'Agudat Yisra'el's status is a cause for both respect and envy, and whenever the Knesset debates a law which it initiated, the media is full of articles, stories and programs attacking the government but praising 'Agudat Yisra'el as the only political party which has principles and fights for them. And furthermore, four MKs hold important positions in the Parliament--at once elevated from their inferior status under previous governments, when the majority systematically prevented them from membership in the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee and the Finance Committee; but today the situation is completely different, as was pointed out correctly by the movement chairman, Rabbi Pinhas Menahem Alter, when he opened the debate on political affairs during 'Agudat Yisra'el's "Study Days" last week.

An 'Agudat Yisra'el representative is the chairman of the Finance Committee, the most important committee in the Knesset, and this week--during a long day of debates on the budget bill--it was possible to witness the great respect for the way he carries out his duties. Another 'Agudat Yisra'el representative is the chairman of the Labor and Welfare Committee, and he has been praised for his performance; so is the representative who serves as deputy speaker of the Knesset and who is considered as one of the best deputy speakers; and so is the 'Agudat Yisra'el representative in the Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee.

We have not mentioned these persons' accomplishments in order to engage in a "personality cult" but rather in order to emphasize a fundamental point: 'Agudat Yisra'el representatives who have emerged as true statesmen, totally contradicted all secular theories that orthodox Jews are not worthy of leadership positions and only secularists have an eternal right to lead the entire Israeli nation. It is remarkable: while the secularists' decay and inability to lead or administer begin to surface, Jews who were educated in the synagogue and by religious institutions are emerging as true leaders and doers who are widely accepted.

In light of the above, although it would be wrong to underestimate the severity of existing problems or the need to insist on the implementation of every promise made--it would also be wrong to make light of the important achievements which have been accomplished. There is no commandment to hurt our morale or to engage in self-destruction.

These things are said because we are beginning to witness the unpleasant expressions of disappointment. The source of these sentiments stems from known circles, who refuse to accept the fact that 'Agudat Yisra'el holds the central position in the leadership of religious Judaism and they are the ones who spill these bitter drops of contempt. Their partner is a decaying organization that after many years in the coalition did not accomplish what 'Agudat Yisra'el accomplished in a few months.

It is forbidden then for people among us to be influenced by such harmful tendencies or to listen to the poisonous propaganda which contains even libelous attacks against great Torah scholars and against members of 'Agudat Yisra'el who supposedly accepted "bribes" to cover this or that problem. Whoever listens to them or assists in spreading their word becomes an active partner in hurting 'Agudat Yisra'el whose only "sin" is that in the middle of the present parliamentary session, it holds a very nice list of accomplishments while not denying or hiding what has not been accomplished and while fighting to realize every promise which was made.

It is perhaps a bit strange to make such a plea when the balance of accomplishments under the coalition agreement is very positive. One of the reasons for this may be the fact that for years we have been used to being pushed around and to having our requests denied; we have been used to a reality in which nothing can be accomplished, and in which we had to beg at the doors of ministers and officials, and now it is hard to get used to the sharp change which caused some senior persons in Israel to stand begging at the doors of 'Agudat Yisra'el's leaders.

Or perhaps the reason for the situation lies in the fact that 'Agudat Yisra'el does not publicize its efforts and accomplishments. The public, in turn, is not aware of the fact that along with the disappointments there are many positive accomplishments as well. At any rate, now that these facts have been published it would be better to invest our efforts in accomplishing even more and not in critical and unjustified criticism.

9446

CSO: 4805

KIRYAT SHMONEH RESIDENTS CLOSE CITY IN PROTEST

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Jun 79 p 3

[Article by Shim'on Wise: "Kiryat Shmoneh Closed for Eight Hours"]

[Text] The Mayor: "The City Now Faces the Greatest Crisis in Its History; Tens of Veterans Are Leaving"

Citizens of Kiryat Shmoneh yesterday blocked all the roads leading to and from the city for more than 8 hours.

During those hours long lines and traffic jams were created by vehicles whose drivers wanted to reach Kiryat Shmoneh and whose passage was prevented by the residents. Travelers on "Egged" buses which reached the city were forced to walk from the barriers to the city on foot, a distance of several kilometers. The Kiryat Shmoneh police did not interfere with the goings on all day.

The blocking of the city was the result of the demand of the residents and mayor that the government change its policy toward Kiryat Shmoneh--that it define it as a preferred settlement and allot it greater financial aid and material resources and ease the security and economic burden on them.

The Public Committee for Advancement of Kiryat Shmoneh decided upon closing the city at the end of last week. Closing of roads to and from the city yesterday prevented about 500 workers who live in the city from going out of it to their places of work. Also doctors who serve in the city were prevented from arriving. However, all the educational institutions functioned yesterday, as well as services of the city and industry.

"It Has Been Proven That the Government Is Unable To Stop Terrorists"

In a press conference called in the city before noon, Mayor Avraham Aloni said that the city is now going through the most difficult crisis in its history, and for the first time tens of veteran residents who until now have comprised the human social basis of the city are leaving Kiryat Shmoneh. According to Aloni the last wave of katyushot during which in

one day a number of katyushot were shot was the straw that broke the desire of the residents to continue living in Kiryat Shmoneh. "It was proved to us that the government is incapable of preventing the terrorist madness," Aloni emphasized. In relating to the demands of the city's leaders and residents, Aloni said that the government and its institutions must grant the city special conditions so that people will want to live there. Aloni called for a government 5-year program which would include investment programs, financial aid benefits for residents and greater and more planned industrialization of Kiryat Shmoneh.

He emphasized that if this protest does not bring a suitable government reaction the Public Committee for Advancement of Kiryat Shmoneh will again be called into session and will decide upon more drastic steps, such as: a strike by residents, closing of the city for a longer duration, and a mass march on Jerusalem--all this until Kiryat Shmoneh is promised special status as a preferred city.

Rafi Malca, director of the Hule Textile Factory, raised four specific demands that the residents of Kiryat Shmoneh are requesting of the government: better bomb shelters, introduction of better industrial streams, better housing conditions and financial incentives that will draw residents from the center of the country. "On spirit only we will not be able to exist," declared Malca.

Lip Service

Yisra'el Kenig, administrator of the Northern Sector in the Interior Ministry, who yesterday visited Kiryat Shmoneh, said at the press conference that although he identifies with the complaints of the residents he does not see in blocked roads and violent demonstrations an efficient way of achieving what is desired. Kenig said that not all the demands of the residents of Kiryat Shmoneh are within the grasp of the government, and some of them do not go together with financial help. "I think that Kiryat Shmoneh needs to receive encouragement and greater incentives for its location, the basis of its population, and for the nonexistence of proper quality of living and wide industry, and therefore the State of Israel must provide this to Kiryat Shmoneh," said the administrator of the area. He complained that the people of Kiryat Shmoneh decided upon and executed the blocking of the roads without early warning and without conferring with him.

During the combined meetings of the administrator of the Northern Sector and the Public Committee for Kiryat Shmoneh, harsh exchanges between Kenig and the people of Kiryat Shmoneh were heard in which they accused the government of not knowing at all what is going on in the city or what it needs, and of paying lip service with the declarations and promises of its ministers on aid to the city, which are not realized.

At the conclusion of the meeting, about 2:00 p.m. the Public Committee decided to respond to the request of the interior minister and the administrator of the Northern Sector, and cleared the barriers and roads leading to the city. At the same time the interior minister promised to raise the matter of Kiryat Shmoneh before the Cabinet and to personally and immediately give it aid.

9182

CSO: 4805

MORE IMMIGRATION, PRESERVATION OF JUDAISM CALLED FOR

Tel Aviv HAZOFEH in Hebrew 19 Jun 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Discussions of the Labor Zionist Committee"]

[Text] The session of the Zionist Labor Committee which opened yesterday in Jerusalem is its first meeting since the Israel-Egypt peace treaty. The central issues of Zionism, education, immigration and absorption and settlement must be evaluated as to what the implications are for them in view of the chance for an era of peace.

Zionism dictates that now and tomorrow Jewish education in the diaspora be increased to block the path to assimilation which threatens like a holocaust. For this organizational improvements would not be enough, but rather a change of values in the Zionist movement. Confronting the alienating world, which threatens to flood us with its culture and ways, it is most essential to inculcate belief and Torah in Jewish youth, prophecies and Law, Chasidism and morality which constitute the true culture of the people of Israel. The time has come to recognize that secular substitutes will not stand up to outside influences. Judaism in all its glory has the might to shape an original Jewish image for the generation growing up in the diaspora.

Immigration by choice to the Land of Israel, land of our fathers, the settling of which to await redemption is a part of complete Judaism, will follow Jewish religious education there, accompanied by a society that is progressive in its opinions and ways of behavior here in Israel. Most of the immigrants from wealthy countries are religious Jews. The religious Zionist movement with all its parts has become a central factor in immigration to Israel.

The chairman of the Zionist Histadrut, A. Dulzin, said at the opening session that we aspire to 8 million Jews in the country by the end of the century and a million Jewish residents in Jerusalem. Five million Jews in the next 20 years in Israel will be conditional upon natural reproduction, a halt to emigration, and steady immigration from the diaspora. This is the test for the Zionist Federation and the State of Israel.

First and foremost, basic changes must be made in immigration and absorption arrangements so that no immigrant meets needless complex absorption difficulties. It is puzzling that to date no agreement has been reached on a joint authority of the government and the Zionist Executive organized according to true needs and not to satisfy power positions according to a certain code. Absorption means housing, employment, education, and a society worthy of the name.

The dropping out among Russian immigrants, which comes now to two-thirds or more, contains worrisome elements. Those who leave Soviet Russia as a result of requests of relatives from Israel, through Israeli means, upon their arrival at the transfer station in Vienna, are persistently solicited by such Jewish organizations as HIAS [Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society] and the Joint, who convince them to immigrate to the United States, Canada and other countries instead of immigrating to Israel. These organizations act according to the desire of the emigrants, who in the majority prefer the United States to Israel. Being without Jewish awareness, they are interested in big rich countries where they believe it will be easier to get along. But it would be in the best interest of the Jewish nation for them to immigrate to Israel, put down roots, and for the majority to remain Israeli citizens. In foreign countries they are liable to completely assimilate.

At the meeting of the Zionist Labor and the convention of the Jewish Agency this problem must be discussed in all its aspects, together with representatives of Jewish international organizations, and conclusions must be reached and decisions made. To this point there are already thousands of dropouts who found their place in Western countries. According to the estimate, about 50,000 Jews will leave Soviet Russia this year. When the aid of Jewish organizations to their immigration to other countries stops, most of them will immigrate to Israel and will become acclimated there, as 100,000 USSR immigrants already have. They are not refugees. The country is willing to absorb them. Their place is here. For the country is crying for immigration, as well as for saving them from being assimilated elsewhere.

Just as the Zionist movement will eventually overcome its crises and be a Jewish traditional national movement for return to Judaism and immigration to the Land of Israel, the Israeli society will overcome the negative aspects in it, secularity and permissiveness, and become a society of Jewish values in opinions and laws, ready for pioneering and settling, a simple level of living, honesty and justice and for social spiritual absorption of immigrant brothers from the diaspora. This society will draw immigration from all the diaspora.

Much is said about the housing shortage and renovation of poor neighborhoods. Frightening moral negligence must be discussed, as witness of the chronic criminality, and there is running after money and a tendency to break rules, whose removal is necessary in order to make the country a target for immigrants desiring to live in a Jewish progressive society.

Jewish existence in ours and the coming generations will require partnership of idealism and functioning between the Zionist movement and the state in the education network, in immigration to the country, in bettering Jewish society here, in pioneer settlement in all parts of the country, in narrowing of the social and investment gaps and in fortification of security of the country in the face of the enemy.

Advancement toward these goals, guarantees to our existence as a nation and state, must be done in complete cooperation between the Zionists and the State. This is a path seeded with many barriers from home and from without. But in parallel to the peace process, which is likely to free us from threats of wars, we must break the routine and begin a gradual process of solving the central problems of our lives. We must begin anew and renew in order to stop the waves of assimilation outside the country and the social moral descent in the country. The Zionism of vision and pioneering, of belief and dedication, that is (and isn't without it) will bring us closer to the goals, this Zionism has its wellsprings in Torah and prophecy, law and good deeds, the way of the nation of Israel to redemption.

9182

C50: 4805

BUILDING OF STADIUM IN JERUSALEM AROUSES OPPOSITION

Tel Aviv HAMODI'A in Hebrew 12 Jun 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Difficult Decision"]

[Text] The possibility that the Agudat Israel Party in the Jerusalem City Council will decide to leave the coalition proves how seriously the Agudat Israel relates to the issue now turning the public in Jerusalem and outside of it and reaching Jewish communities in the world.

For years the Agudat Israel was an active partner in running the city. This was not enough to hide the differences of opinion and differences in viewpoint existing between us and the mayor's party. Those continue and exist today not only in the matter of the stadium presently under discussion. But there was not enough in these differences to prevent cooperation according to the always accepted recipe of the Agudat Israel, even before the rise of the State the framework of cooperation and not union was set. Agudat Israel has never foregone its opinions and demands. On this basis it also entered the government of the city after the last elections.

The stadium is one of the subjects on which there are no compromises. This is a struggle over the image of the city. All the great Torah scholars see it as a danger to the atmosphere of the city, and it is not necessary to be "extremist" to see in this a danger to all of Jerusalem. We fear the results, and it is a shame that nonbelievers do not comprehend. In these days when our right to East Jerusalem is disputed, we should show greater sensitivity to any affront to the image and atmosphere of the city, an affront which could cause dispute over our right.

The stubbornness that Mr Kollek shows in this matter places in question the ability to cooperate for the good of the city. This behavior, which is provocative to a large portion of the population awakens suspicion which in future will weigh upon all cooperation. However, the coalition agreement leaves in the hands of Agudat Israel the right to struggle against the stadium, so that from a coalition point of view there is nothing wrong with this war. But from a moralistic view, Agudat Israel will find it hard to stand in the two positions, struggle against the stadium when the head of

the initiators of it is Mr Kollek, and to sit in the City Council at the head of which Mr Kollek stands.

We assume the mayor is aware of the dangers he causes the city when he clings to his opinion and is unwilling to look for an escape from the mess he was dragged into. No attempt to place responsibility on the other person will save him from the embarrassment and the trouble. He can only pull the city out of the mess, by a clear-cut decision, to stop the work until the problem has been solved. If he will not do this, it will demonstrate the purpose in public, of removing the Agudat Israel from influencing the city and at any rate to create an insufferable condition for the city, when relations will polarize and neither side again will have any control of the developments.

At this stage a united stand by all the religious factors in the Council is required. Whoever does not want to contribute to the combined struggle in this matter, a struggle that has all the chances, takes on himself heavy responsibility. Objection to the stadium crosses all the political barriers in the religious camp.

Those who expressed strong objection to the stadium include the Council of the Chief Rabbi, and it is hard for us to understand why the NRP representative from the city government is unwilling to give a hand at all and leaves place to explain this as not right.

The Agudat Israel Council in Jerusalem, which meets this week to decide, will face a very difficult decision. However, in the circumstances created it will not be able to avoid making a clearcut decision. Right now the ball is in the hands of the mayor, and it will be better if he relates to the matter without sentiment and is not guided by the desires of those wanting to uproot the atmosphere in Jerusalem and to leave it in a storm, the end of which can not be guessed.

9182

CSO: 4805

FIRST QUARTER 1979 STATE OF THE ECONOMY

Tel Aviv BUSINESS REVIEW AND ECONOMIC NEWS FROM ISRAEL in English
Jul 79 No 73 pp 1,2

[Text]

The economic situation in Israel in the first four months of 1979 worsened appreciably, as price inflation threatened to spiral out of control. Through April, the consumer price index rose 23.4 % in the face of the administration's ineffective attempts to check both widespread labor unrest and the public's scramble for consumer goods and money assets of all kinds.

The consumer price index rose during April by 8.7 %, the highest recorded monthly increase since 1952, with the exception of November 1974 and November 1977 when massive devaluations were effected. Prices have more than tripled in the last three years and since May 1977, they have risen by 142 %. In the twelve month period ending April 1979, the index had risen 61 %.

The three largest contributing factors to the April jump were food (+6.8 %), clothing and footwear (+ 14.3 %) and housing (+ 17.8 %) with apartments costing 133 % more than in April 1978. The building index reached 413.9 (1975=100.0), showing an 11.7 % gain over the preceding month.

Devaluation of the Israel pound also accounted for a portion of the April rise, as the Bank of Israel intervened in the foreign currency market to cheapen the pound in a bid to shore up export profitability. In the period March-May, the central bank devalued the pound by 25.5 %.

The industrial wholesale index presages further price increases in the months ahead, as it rose by 8.9 % during April. Indexation for May is expected to be in the 5 %—6 % range, but if prices continue to rise throughout the remainder of the year as they have done through April, inflation will approach 90 %.

Increasing economic uncertainty and the expectation of further price hikes seriously undermined industry's export drive. Manufacturers, unable to plan with confidence and caught between steadily rising production costs and the high cost of acquiring funds, shifted their attention to the local market which afforded an immediate and higher return than did export production. As a result, the trade gap continued to widen and threatened the country's goal of achieving a modicum of economic independence.

The economy is currently awash in excess purchasing power, a volatile situation which is further exacerbated by the military pull-back from Sinai, the financing of which demands that huge sums of money be injected into the economy over the next few years. Israel will receive \$3 billion from the United States to relocate its forces in the Negev desert. Of this amount, \$800 million will be in the form of a grant, and \$2.2 billion will come from foreign military sales credits carrying an interest rate of 9% repayable over thirty years with an initial ten-year grace period. Israel has already signed contracts worth \$1.04 billion with American construction firms for building two airfields, while Israel herself will build a third base at an estimated cost of \$1.6 billion. An Israel request for better terms was rejected by the American administration.

Between IL 60—65 billion at 1978 prices will be spent in the Negev within the next three to five years, half of which sum will be paid for by Israel. The new defense arrangements will not only increase inflationary pressures and adversely affect the country's delicate balance of payments, but will cause major shifts in the basic structure of the economy. Israel suffers from both a manpower and housing shortage which is only partially alleviated by the free inflow of construction workers from the administered territories. Moreover, the scale of the projects called for in the Negev is of a size and scope which puts them beyond the capacity of most Israeli firms. The urgent need to build an industrial and commercial infrastructure to serve the rapid development in the South will make these problems more keenly acute as time passes.

In an effort to retain some degree of control over the economy, the administration has been forced by its critics into pushing through an immediate IL 7 billion cut in government expenditures. It is an attempt to prevent the inflationary spiral from moving far beyond the 60% mark officially pegged by the Treasury as the best that can be expected in 1979.

A balanced budget in three year's time will necessitate on-going annual cuts approximating at least IL 20 billion at today's prices; this is, to be sure, a politically unpalatable measure, but the attempt must be made if inflation is to be checked and if Israel is to remain economically viable.

In the meantime, the sole step taken to combat inflation has been the cancellation of cheap, government-subsidized loans to industry, which in the case of new loans are to be linked at not less than 70% of the c-o-i rise. Linkage includes the interest rate on the loan. The government's

reasoning is that there is too much investment money in the market, while existing production capacity is excessive vis-a-vis its utilization.

In conjunction with the Treasury, the Bank of Israel raised interest rates on the entire range of government-subsidized loans given in both foreign and local currency. Other voices have called for a complete price and wage freeze, higher direct taxes, the lifting of all import tariffs and the freezing of government employment in the public sector.

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Ehrlich, has reacted cautiously to these pronouncements and with little enthusiasm, preferring apparent indecision to unpopular action.

The overriding concern which has guided economic policy since the Yom Kippur War of 1973 has been the avoidance of any measures which might cause widespread unemployment. Policy was shaped to spur export growth which was to restructure and revitalize the economy with a minimum of dislocation by gradually shifting manpower and other factors of production toward exports and import substitution, and away from redundant goods and services, and non-vital public sector projects. This has not happened on the scale envisaged due to rigidities in Israel's economic structure and socio-political versus purely economic considerations. The result has been five and one-half years of destabilizing inflation, an unsound balance of payments and sluggish growth, accompanied throughout by high levels of hidden unemployment.

CSO: 4820

FIVE-YEAR PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS DETAILED

Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Jul 79 p 3

[Article: "Five-Year Plan Third Year Achievements—National Output Increased by 14.1 Percent"]

[Text] During its third year, 1978, the five-year plan made some positive achievements covering almost all its projects in the various sectors of the economy.

Sources in the National Council for Planning indicated that the preliminary estimates of the realized national output, in fixed prices, increased from 332.8 million dinars in 1977 to 379.8 million dinars in 1978, the third year of the five-year plan. In other words, the increase in the national output amounted to 14.1 percent. Although the contribution of the production sectors in agriculture, industry, mining, building and construction, electric energy and water to the national output rose from 35.2 percent in 1977 to 36 percent in 1978, yet the plan estimated the contribution of these sectors to the national output at 41.3 percent in 1978.

The sources also said that the realized income from the agricultural sector increased, according to the preliminary estimates, from 34.2 million dinars in 1977 to 39.7 million dinars in 1978. Income from the industrial sector increased from 57.4 million dinars in 1977 to 65.6 million dinars in 1978. In other words, the increase amounted to 14.3 percent, while the plan estimated the increase for 1978 at 13.1 percent. The third year also witnessed expansion of the activities of certain sectors of the economy such as banking services and retail and wholesale trade. The actual rate of growth, in fixed prices, in the banking sector amounted to 29.8 percent and 24.9 percent in the retail and wholesale trade sector during 1978, compared with 12.5 percent increase in the banking sector and 7.8 percent increase in the retail and wholesale trade sector during 1977.

Discussing the Plan's projects under implementation, the source said that during the third year of the plan there were 236 projects under implementation. Some were started during that year and others were carried from the previous year. In addition, there were 11 projects not included in the plan. The actual funds allocated to finance the development projects during

1978 were estimated at about 178,809 dinars, including 72,445 dinars for the industrial and mining sector, 24,027 dinars for the transport sector and 23,861 dinars for the water and irrigation sector.

Figures compiled by the National Council for Planning showed that the total expenditures on these projects during the third year of the plan amounted to 146,541 dinars, or 81.9 percent of the total funds actually appropriated for the year 1978.

Achievements made during the third year of the plan included the execution of 11 projects in the agricultural sector. Among the most important of these projects are: the fruit trees project, the afforestation and development of forest trees nurseries project, raising of regionalized cows project and the development of irrigated farming in the Jordan valley.

In the industrial and mining sector, the plan aimed at continuing the implementation and expansion of 11 projects designed to increase the national income and exports from this sector. Among the most vital projects continued during the year were: expansion of the oil refinery, expansion of the phosphate production and the potassium and chemical fertilizers industry, oil exploration and exploration of the underground sources of thermo energy.

In the water and irrigation sector, work began or continued in 33 projects, topped by King Talal Dam, extending the eastern Ghor canal to 18 additional kilometers, the water project for Wadi al-Arab area and irrigation of the northeastern part of the Ghor and the water project for Qa' al-Disi area in 'Aqaba.

With the aim of developing land, air and sea transport networks, work continued in carrying out 40 development projects. Among the most important of these projects were: Queen 'Alya International Airport, building docks for goods in 'Aqaba port and construction of the al-Safi-'Aqaba road and the Kafrnajah-al-Karimah road.

Work also continued on the implementation of several economic and social projects in the fields of electric power, trade, housing and government buildings, health and education.

6800

CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD AND COMMUNISTS--According to informed sources in Amman, the Jordanian authorities are trying to manipulate the Moslem Brotherhood organization in a planned political operation with the aim of crushing the anti-Hussein communist and leftist elements. To this end, some Moslem Brothers are working within the Palestinian rejectionist organizations. Jordanian authorities have initiated a new policy to attract elements of the Moslem Brotherhood and direct their activities towards targets serving the interests of the monarchy. Several secret meetings have been held between the head of the Jordanian intelligence services and leaders of the Moslem Brotherhood to coordinate cooperation between the two organizations. Recently, several incidents were reported in Jordan involving attacks against some members of the Jordanian Communist Party, including Dr Khalid 'Ashmawi. Reportedly, King Hussein himself is engaged in drawing the plans for such operations carried out by the Moslem Brothers. This is happening in Jordan, while at the same time, the Syrian authorities are carrying out death sentences against the Moslem Brothers and hunting other members of the organization to get revenge against them. [Text] [Cairo AKHIR SA'AH in Arabic 11 Jul 79 p 12] 6800

CSO: 4802

LEBANESE FRONT SEEKS SOLUTION OF PROBLEMS WITH PALESTINIANS

Disarmament of Palestinians Asked

Beirut L'ORIENT-LE JOUR in French 1 Aug 79 p 3

[Article: "Accusing the Government of Limiting Itself to Only One Aspect of the Matter--The 'Front' Asks the Cabinet to Commit Itself to Disarming the Palestinians--'The Situation Prevailing in the South Serves Only Israel,' Jumayyil Stresses"]

[Text] The "Lebanese Front" has called on the government to commit itself, in its ministerial statement, to disarming the Palestinians in Lebanon, until their departure from the country. The "Front," which has published a communique in this regard, has also received a delegation from the Cultural Union of Worldwide Lebanese (UCLM), with which it has studied the organization of the Union's coming congress, which is to take place in Washington at the end of the summer.

Here is the text of the manifesto issued at the conclusion of the deliberations:

"The 'Lebanese Front' met at Deir Aoukar on Tuesday 31 July, with all its members present.

"After deliberation, and in order to avoid any surprises that might be occasioned by the ministerial declaration in preparation, the 'Front' considers it necessary to draw the government's attention to the fact that it is not reassured by what the Cabinet has given to understand with regard to the questions of sovereignty and security. The government limits itself, in effect, to a particular point of view, the problem of the south, leaving aside the similar problems of Damour, Shyah, Haret Hreik and Bourj el-Barajne, and showing itself indifferent regarding the problem of the Palestinian armed presence in the south, a presence which Israel takes as a pretext for continuing its bombardments against this region. The 'Front' considers that the government's duty is to proclaim in its declaration, and until the necessary measures have been taken to remove the Palestinians entirely from the country, its determination to disarm the Palestinians and bring them back to those places where they were before 13 April 1975.

"This follows from the principle that sovereignty is indivisible and that any violation of sovereignty, no matter where it comes from, does injury to its very essence."

With the UCLM

The communique continues:

"This is what the 'Front' wants to say when it expresses its desire for the ministerial declaration to depart from the traditional line of the preceding governmental statements.

"Next, the 'Front' took note of the memorandum from the professors of the Faculty of Pedagogy (second section) and learned of the dangers that this faculty is facing. The 'Front' considers that this institution is the adequate instrument for graduating Lebanese teachers qualified to take charge of the training of Lebanese youth. This is why it assigns so much importance to the question and considers that the maintenance and development of this faculty represent a national necessity. It is concerned that there be no reduction in faculty personnel while revision of the decrees of organization is awaited.

"Next, the 'Front' received a delegation from the UCLM composed of Messrs Ramez Saad, Rshad Salame, Ali Sabbah and Heykal Reaidy and Sheikh Fady Jumayyil. With this delegation, it studied the situation of the emigres and the ways and means of coordinating the action of the emigres, the Union, the 'Front' and the mother country. The broad outlines to be followed in the Lebanon of tomorrow were drawn up. A decision was made to hold a further meeting on Friday 3 August 1979."

The Declaration by the Chief of the Kata'ib

At the conclusion of the meeting, Pierre Jumayyil made the following declaration: "Lebanon, which is a small and weak country, suffers from a thousand evils today, without a single Arab state's proclaiming its rejection of what is happening here. However, if one examines the question in depth, one notes that the war taking place between southern Lebanon, which no longer has a specific identity, and Israel, demonstrates that the Palestinians are working to achieve Israel's objectives. I would not be at all surprised if Israel were at the bottom of the situation prevailing in the south, for what is happening in that region cannot be in the interest of the Palestinians or of the Arabs."

Jumayyil continued: "I would like to repeat my question: what is the interest of the Palestinian presence in the south, a presence expressed by the existence of several organizations, each acting as it pleases? Is this disordered presence capable of recovering Palestine or of freeing the occupied territories? What is happening shows us that the Arabs, all the Arabs, are conducting their war against Israel with great frivolity and irresponsibly."

The higher chief of the Kata'ib said also: "If Israel really wanted to put an end to the situation prevailing in the south, wouldn't it have been able to do so? This is what makes us say that the Arabs and the Palestinians are all doing their best to achieve Israel's objectives."

Asked to comment on the visit to Beirut by Brian Urquhart, United Nations undersecretary general for special political affairs (the account of the visit can be read on the first page), Jumayyil pointed out that Lebanon had succeeded in preserving its borders thanks to its international friendships and its diplomacy. "Thus," he remarked, "we have been able to thwart the Palestinians' desire to get Israel to occupy the south. Israel would like to perpetuate the present situation in the south, but we have succeeded, thanks to our cooperation with the United Nations, in stopping the occupation of southern Lebanon by Israel."

The League of Side-Takers

Jumayyil added: "The Security Council decided to send the FINUL [United Nations Forces in Lebanon] to the south for two reasons: to put an end to the Israeli occupation, and to help the Lebanese state reestablish its authority and sovereignty in this region. The first part of this mission was achieved, and Israel withdrew. But the second part has not been achieved, because of the disorderly and anarchic Palestinian armed presence. It is because of this presence that the Lebanese army has not been able to deploy its forces in the southern border region."

After stressing that the world has lost confidence in the United Nations because it has allowed a small country like Lebanon to be destroyed without reacting and the Lebanese have lost confidence in the Arab League because of its inability to settle the Lebanese crisis, Jumayyil stated that the recent visit to Beirut by the new secretary general of the inter-Arab organization, Sheddi Klibi, had demonstrated that the organization continues to behave as a participant in the conflict and not as an arbiter.

President Sham'un, pressed with questions by journalists as he left, refused to make any statement whatsoever, referring the representatives of the press to the communique of the "Front."

Jumayyil Interviewed

Beirut L'ORIENT-LE JOUR in French 3 Aug 79 p 3

[Report of interview with Kata'ib or Phalanges Party leader Pierre Jumayyil: "An Interview with Jumayyil in AL-SAFIR--'Haddad Plays the Role of an Agent, but He Has Been Driven to It'--'Arabism Is Not Islam'"]

[Text] In a long interview published yesterday by the left-wing newspaper AL-SAFIR, the leader of the Kata'ib presents his point of view on three questions connected with the Lebanese crisis: Lebanon's Arabism, the Palestinian question, and the partition of the country.

Two facts are worthy of notice with regard to this interview. First, the meeting between a leader of the "Lebanese Front" and the most influential Beirut publication defending the positions of the "National Movement" and of the Palestinian resistance; AL-SAFIR also announces that in its Saturday edition, tomorrow, it will publish an interview with the president of the "Lebanese Front" and leader of the National Liberal Party, Camille Sham'un. Secondly, AL-SAFIR shows that it is quite sceptical about the chances for dialogue, and places emphasis on the gap between the two parties, the East and West of Beirut: "Over there in the East," it writes, "there is another world very distant from ours, that of the West."

In this interview, the chief of the Kata'ib party vehemently rejects the accusations against his party, charged with collaborating with Israel. He grants that at least 5 percent of the Lebanese are cooperating with the Jewish state, "but it is only," he declares, "because they have been driven by the Arabs into doing so." Defying anyone to furnish proof of collaboration between his party and Israel, he declares that "without the Kata'ib, 90 percent of the Lebanese would have gone to Israel and partition would have been proclaimed." Furthermore, Jumayyil does not hesitate to turn the accusation around, stating that it is actually the "other side" which, "consciously or not," is playing the enemy's game.

Regarding the activities of former commander Saad Hadda, Jumayyil, who denies that he wants to adopt his positions, declares nonetheless that this officer -- "whom I have never met," he makes clear--has the right to state his point of view. "Nevertheless, I would have liked Saad Hadda," he continues, "not to play the role of an agent of Israel. He could easily have taken advantage of the aid granted him by the Jewish state while at the same time acting like a true Lebanese citizen," Jumayyil states. The leader of the Kata'ib further declares that at the beginning of the war, his party was supplied with weapons "by the Palestinians themselves, then in the Bekaa, then from Syria, and finally, from the Devil."

On the other hand, he stresses that he is not opposed to Lebanon's Arabism, but on condition that the idea of Arabism not be confused with the concept of Islam. "Lebanon," he notes, "is the only country in the Arab world whose constitution does not stipulate that the religion of the state is Islam."

The chief of the Kata'ib also reaffirms his support in principle for the Palestinian cause, recalling his party's many positive contributions in its favor. However, he lays responsibility for Lebanon's conflict at the door of the Palestinians, who, he insisted, have been "manipulated by the international left."

In this long interview, Jumayyil also brought out the following points:

--It is necessary to renew the formula of 1943, "in order for Lebanon to be able to live again."

--The Kata'ib accepted "only reluctantly" the Lebanese-Palestinian agreement of Cairo, and only "to avoid civil war." This is why "one may not judge those who were responsible at the time."

--The "Islamic Rally" is the partner for a dialogue; nevertheless, Jumayyil criticizes Saeb Salam and Rashid Karame, "who could have played the role of Riad Solh." This role should also have been taken on by President Hoss, for whom Jumayyil declares he has "great consideration."

--The Kata'ib were not involved either directly or indirectly in the Ehden massacre; "that was a vendetta action carried out by the parents of victims, who had not been able to obtain justice from the state."

--Not only are the Kata'ib favorable to a dialogue with Syria, "they are demanding" such a dialogue.

--Finally, Jumayyil declares he is favorable to a peace with Israel "if such a treaty could save Lebanon," and he would be hostile to it if it were to produce the contrary result.

Sham'un Interviewed

Beirut L'ORIENT-LE JOUR in French 5 Aug 79 p 3

[Report of interview with ex-president Camille Sham'un: "In an interview in AL-SAFIR--Sham'un: Ready for Dialogue with the Palestinians... 'If They Stop Being a Cause of Insecurity'"]

[Text] President Camille Sham'un has laid "responsibility for the destruction of Lebanon" at the door of the Palestinians.

In an interview published yesterday by AL-SAFIR, the former president of the republic nevertheless declared himself "ready for dialogue with the Palestinians" and to accept their presence in the country, "on condition that they no longer be the cause of the deterioration of the state of security."

In the course of the talk--the first granted by President Sham'un to AS-SAFIR, which the day before had published an interview with the leader of the Kata'ib, Pierre Jumayyil--the chief of the PNL [National Liberal Party] stressed that if the events of recent years in Lebanon were to be repeated and if his own political past were to be done over again, he would have "exactly the same positions, which have always been correct ones." Concerning the future of Lebanon, and in particular, the means of arriving at an understanding among Lebanese, President Sham'un declared himself in favor of a federal and "religious cantons" system, as well as laicization of the state. Regarding the position of the Arab countries concerning the events in Lebanon, he declared that "the Arabs have shown themselves to be pro-Moslem."

The PNL chief also said that he is disappointed by the "Arab action" at the conferences of Cairo, of Riyadh (October 1976) and of Beiteddine (October

1978), which he said had an individualistic character, not emanating "from a collective decision, as should be the case within the Arab League."

"No Risk for the South"

Asked to say what he considers the best way to arrive at a solution of the Palestinian problem, President Sham'un "advised the Palestinians to concentrate on a diplomatic solution, since no Arab country can aid them militarily."

Finally, the chief of the PNL considers that there is "no risk of southern Lebanon's breaking away from Lebanese sovereignty." "The international assurances are there," he added, stating that "the only danger comes from the actions of the Lebanon-based Palestinians in Israel."

Finally, President Sham'un stressed that "the Syrians' entry into Lebanon was directed against us (that is, the 'Lebanese Front') from the beginning, and it was not in any way our desire."

11267

CSO: 4800

WRITER EXPOSES FAILURE OF ISRAELI-FORMED COMMITTEES IN BORDER AREA

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 25 Jun 79 pp 14-15

[Article by 'Abdullah Hashim: "The Enemy Wanted the Committees in the Border Strip So as to Contain the Positions of the People But He Has Failed in His Objective; 'Ali al-'Abd Says That the Committees Have Been a Political and Social Failure"]

[Text] Israel, which has been working through its agent, Sa'd Haddad, to form a security cordon for its northern settlements in the occupied Galilee area, is also trying to lend status to its agent, Haddad, and the border militia by forming committees in the villages to help the militias administer public matters while the Israeli intelligence officers would retain their powers in sensitive matters.

The experiment of the committees which Israel ventured upon in the occupied border strip is one that conceals the nature of the Zionist objectives that rest in irremediably linking this area with the Zionist enemy's state preparatory to a future move to transform the border strip into a spearhead aimed at the nationalist areas under the authority of UNIFIL. On this basis one can understand the Haddad's desperate attempts to annex more villages to his freakish mini-state and the threats he makes on given occasions or out of the blue.

The creation of the committees began after the Israelis overran the south as part of an attempt to outflank the violent popular anger with which our people met the Zionist military presence and to put another facade on it by creating an instrument to play the role of controlling the situation in order to serve the Zionist isolationist plan. However, this attempt is still faltering and will continue to do so.

Comrade 'Ali al-'Abd, a member of the political bureau of the communist party, says: To the end of containing the political positions of the inhabitants of the occupied areas, Israel turned to forming "popular" committees in every village and town in the occupied south. For these committees, it picked inhabitants who were mostly over 40 years old and

excluded young and educated elements because it believed that these people would be isolated from political action. This would enable it, through a set of promises and threats, to gain control over the positions of these committees and guide them along the lines of its interests and aggression. These committees were forced to cooperate with the occupation authorities in connection with ensuring "a normal life" in the areas and providing the needs of daily life and social needs for the villages under occupation.

Israel wanted to turn these committees and their efforts to solve people's outstanding social problems into an opening to penetrate popular circles and link them directly with Israel.

Comrade Ihsan Bazzi corroborates this view by saying: For example, the Bint Jubayl committee was formed during the first month of the incursion under the name "the social services committee." Its basic program of work involved health services, education, water and electricity. While collecting pay-offs, the military role of the committee emerged through the activities of the then military official of the area, one Abu Iskandar (from the village of 'Ayn Ibil), since he went out of his way to force pay-offs from transport vehicles and busses in Bint Jubayl and homes and shops and imposing taxes on merchandise moving to and from the area, all under the same slogan. Abu Iskandar was active at this time in stealing money, stealing five different batches of money which he transferred to his account at the French bank in Sidon, the last amount totaling about 150,000 pounds.

There are, however, those who say that these committees were successful in providing some services to the people there.

Comrade Bazzi says: These committees have not so far been able to solve any social problem. The water problem is still intractable and has been turned into a revenue source for the militias as they charge 15 pounds for a tank-truck holding not more than 50 barrels, Abu Iskandar having earlier sold water of the Bint Jubayl pond to the inhabitants of a neighboring village. In the health field, the committees have been unable to solve any problem. The social restoration authority recently tried through the committee itself to open a clinic in Bint Jubayl. The militias seized all the drugs and equipment and issued an explicit order not to open this clinic. They said, verbatim: "For anyone wishing to see a doctor, there is a good wall (i.e. open fence on Israeli border) and the Israeli hospitals."

The one area where the committees have done something specific is in education at the beginning of this school year. However, this committee collected a huge sum of money from the people to refurbish the schools and the larger part of it went into the pockets of the agent, Abu Iskandar, and other militia officials.

He also pointed out that these committees avoided issues concerning large segments of the people there, such as the issue of the tobacco farms, the shoe factory workers, the construction workers, the farm workers and workers in various other professions. The situations of these segments had reached such a bad state that they could be called paralyzed. There is no better proof of that than the fact that the area planted in tobacco this year in Bint Jubayl is no more than 50 dunums out of a total permitted area of 2,000 dunums. Nor has the role of the committees been prominent in the area of compensations since the southern council assigned a committee to estimate the number of persons living in the area but it did the counting in conformity with the instructions it received directly from the militias. What the higher aid committee has provided has been confined to the resident inhabitants of the strip area and it was provided through the committees which stole the larger part of it. One time, 300 supply items were stolen by one member of the committee, one Samir Bazzi (nicknamed "Al-Yahudiyah [the Jewess]") for the traitor, Sa'd Haddad, and the agent, Abu Iskandar.

Changing the Committees

At the start the committees were operating under the supervision and guidance of the militias but the militias proved unable to direct these committees along the lines desired by Israel so, from time to time, Israel turned to reorganizing the committees along the lines of tying them in with Israeli objectives and interests.

Comrade 'Ali al-'Abd also attributes the altered structure of these committees to their inability to play their desired roles as visualized in the Israeli delusions, for neither on the political level did these committees adopt positions hostile to nationalist attitudes or positions or elements, nor on the level of the basic question for which Israel had announced the formation of these committees, that is, for Israel to meet social, health and educational needs as Israel provided nothing in this regard. These committees therefore felt that their political function was entirely confined to demonstrating that there was an understanding between the occupied villages and the occupation authorities. For all practical purposes, these committees found their function limited to collecting pay for the military men, such as pay-offs from the people and so taking on responsibility for the military operations taking place close to the villages. The function of the committees was never to work to solve the problems of the inhabitants.

After excluding the militias, Israel is now engaged in direct supervision over the work of these committees through Israeli intelligence officers in the areas. Through the structure of the committees and the presence of puppet elements linked to Israel, the enemy can steer the major part of their work to his advantage.

This complete domination has frustrated many of the social aspects that had been introduced into these committees, whose concern was to appear to be engaged in social work. By means of these social aspects, the enemy has also been able to polish the reputations of the committee members who are agents and closely linked with Israel, all this according to Comrade Ihsan Bazzi.

While the enemy is dominating the people through the public committees, it is also maintaining shadow committees that will emerge at the proper time since exposure of the members of these shadow committees would expose the work of the committees and frustrate the objective behind their formation and, at the same time, embarrass the more dangerous members who, at least for the present, want to work in secret.

Enemy Restructuring in Bint Jubayl

The enemy has recently done some restructuring in the elements in charge of the overall situation in Bint Jubayl. The Israeli officer, Amir, has been named as the general official or military governor in Bint Jubayl. One Abu 'Umar, whose real name is Musa Faris from Marun Al-Ra's, has been named the military man in charge of the militias in Bint Jubayl after the removal of Abu Iskandar for various reasons, including his profiting from various thefts, attacks on people and certain scandals.

'Ali Nu'mah Jabir has been put in charge of providing permits to enter and leave the area. Israeli officers have been put in charge of the militias in the villages of Dibil and 'Alma Al-Sha'b; those in charge of the militias in the villages they control used to be isolationists from the same villages. Overseeing everyone's work is the military governor of the central and western areas, an Israeli intelligence officer named Chain.

Members of the Committees That the Enemy Formed in Bint Jubayl

The following are members of the first committee formed immediately after the enemy incursion:

Fu'ad Jabir Bazzi whom Israeli television sometimes presents as mayor of Bint Jubayl; Muhammad Faraj; Ibrahim Anis Sa'd; Adib Shararah; Hasan Baydun (nicknamed Al-Aji); and Samir Bazzi (nicknamed "Al-Yahudiyah [Jewess]" because his mother is of Jewish origin and now lives on the West Bank).

The following are members of the second committee that was formed at the beginning of this year:

Fu'ad Jabir Bazzi; Ibrahim Anis Sa'd; Adib Shararah; Hasan Baydun (nicknamed "Al-Aji"); Samir Bazzi ("Al-Yahudiyah"); 'Abd-al-Majid Bazzi; 'Ali Dabbajah --the latter two being two names they have tried to involve and use as notables--Muhammad 'Ali Shararah; Amin Haydus and Sa'id Bazzi.

The following are members of the third committee that was formed recently:

Fu'ad Jabir Bazzi; Muhammad Faraj; Adib Shararah; Ibrahim Anis Sa'd; Samir Bazzi ("the Jewess"); Hasan Baydun ("Al-Aji"); Salah Ayyub; 'Ali Sa'id Bazzi; 'Ali Nu'mah Jabir (nicknamed "Al-Ibrah" [the needle]); and the mukhtar [mayor] Muhammad 'Ali As'ad Baydun, an elderly mukhtar whose position Israel is attempting to exploit.

8389

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PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY FIVE-YEAR PROJECTS DESCRIBED

Aden 14 OCTOBER in Arabic 8 Jun 79 p 2

[Article by 'Umar Bawazir: "Ministry of Communications' Projects in Second Five-Year Plan; Means of Transportation and Communications Play Role in Circulation and Distribution Process; Volume of Plan's Investments for Communications Amounts to 43,812,000 Dinars"]

[Text] Transportation and Communications are one of the important branches of the national economy and no branch of the national economy can be developed without developing transportation and communications, considering that no production operation is complete without completion of four phases: Production, distribution, circulation and consumption.

The more flexible the relationship between these phases, the greater is the accumulation process and, consequently, the momentum given to the economic development. Transportation and communications means play a prominent role in the circulation and distribution process that helps enhance and raise productivity.

Because of the importance of this branch, the revolution government has devoted special attention to the transportation and communications sector. This attention is evident in the allocations made for it in the second five-year plan—allocations estimated at 43,812,000 dinars.

If we go back to the investments in the first five-year plan, we find that they amounted to 27,103,000 dinars and that the actual spending amounted to 15,691,000 dinars representing a 69 percent rate of completion. The sum allocated for the transportation and communications section of the second five-year plan has been distributed among all branches of the Ministry of Communications.

1. In the sphere of ports and maritime transportation, a sum of (15,300,000) dinars has been allocated with the aim of keeping up with the developments in the international ports, of meeting the national economy's needs and of bolstering the maritime fleet to enable it to transport goods to the domestic and foreign markets.

In this regard, work is now in progress to build the Khalaf Port project in the Fifth Governorate. This project has been carried forward from the first five-year plan and is scheduled to be completed within the duration of the second five-year plan.

This project will help to accomodate boats arriving in al-Mukalla, in the Fifth Governorate, and loaded with foodstuffs and construction materials for the development projects, in addition to fishing boats.

Construction of Piers in the Aden Commercial Port

This project has been included in the plan on the basis of preparing a study for it. The first part of the study was completed in the first months of this year in cooperation with the friendly Soviet Union. The study is expected to be completed and construction of the project to begin [sic].

This project will play a major role in accomodating modern ships arriving in the port and enabling them to anchor next to the wharf for speedy loading and unloading and speedy departure from the port.

When completed, this project will enable Aden Port to rival the neighboring ports by offering quick services to ships frequenting it.

Construction of Housing for Dock Workers

During the plan, the Port Authority will build housing for the dock workers capable of accomodating 700 workers because the revolution government is aware that the human element is an important capital for enhancing the development process and that it must be supplied with all the means of comfort.

Renovating Main Slipway of the Dockyard Company

This project has been carried forward from the previous five-year plan to the present five-year plan. It is expected to be completed within the duration of the second five-year plan.

It is well-known that more than 15 years have passed since the construction of this slipway, that it has undergone no repairs since 1975 and that it has begun to lose its original capacity.

The authority has also included several other projects which will be implemented within the duration of the plan, including a project to replace old boats and equipment and, a project to build new awnings in Aden Port and to expand the sparepart storehouses. These projects will help the Yemeni Ports and Maritime Authority to develop its maritime services.

In the sphere of maritime transportation, the ministry will prepare during the span of this plan a comprehensive study on the domestic and foreign

transportation activity. In the light of this study, the Aden Coastal Ships Company will be supplied with modern ships capable of transporting local goods to the various international ports.

2. In the sphere of land transportation: A sum of 6,195,000 dinars has been allocated for this sector to purchase 178 buses and minibuses to be supplied to the various branches of the Land Transportation Authority, in addition to purchasing 77 taxicabs. A large part of the transport services will be provided through the use of minibuses. The allocations also provide for the purchase of 183 new trucks to meet the needs of the authority's branches in the governorates.

Completing Construction of Central Workshop

Work on this project, expected to be completed in 1981, is in progress. This workshop will provide maintenance work for the entire trucking fleet of the Public Land Transportation Authority.

At the same time, efforts are in progress to prepare studies for setting up similar workshops in all the governorates.

In addition to these land transportation projects, other projects will be implemented in the First Governorate to help develop the land transportation services, including the construction of bus stations in Khawr Makaar and al-Shaykh 'Uthman and the purchase of modern ticketing equipment.

Rise in Volume of Commodity and Passenger Transportation

With the implementation of these projects, the total volume of goods transported and of the commodity cycle during the years of the plan will amount consecutively to 1324.4 thousand [sic] tons and 204 million ton-kilometers, i.e. with an increase of 420 percent and 143.7 percent over the first five-year plan [all figures and units as published].

The volume of passengers transported and of the passenger cycle during the years of the plan will amount consecutively to 249.7 million passengers and 4653.6 million passenger-kilometers, i.e. with an increase of 165.4 percent and 171.8 percent over the first five-year plan [all figures and units as published].

Air transportation: A sum of 17,816,000 million dinars has been allocated for this sector in the second five-year plan to implement a number of projects, including:

Extending, strengthening and lighting the Aden International Airport runways. This project is being currently implemented in cooperation with the Soviet Union. When the project is completed, the Aden International Airport will be able to accommodate big modern aircraft.

Construction of al-Rayyan airport which will receive international aircraft directly without the need for passengers to disembark at Aden Airport.

Construction of a new departures building in the Aden International Airport. This project has been included in the plan as a study. In the light of this study, implementation will start with the aim of accomodating large numbers of arrivals, departures and transit passengers and of providing these passengers with the required services and comfort.

The purchase of new aircraft for (YEMEDA) [Yemen Democratic Airlines]: In fact, the YEMEDA fleet was supplied with a Boeing-707 aircraft last May. The company is also expected to receive three DC-7 aircraft for domestic flights.

In this sphere, there are also other projects which will be implemented during the years of the plan and which will help the air transportation services, such as the purchase of new equipment and the enlargement of the YEMEDA maintenance workshops.

3. Telecommunication and Postal Services

A sum of 3.97 million dinars has been allocated in the plan to develop this aspect. The sum is distributed over a number of projects, including the construction of the national telecommunications company [presumably meaning network]. This project has been carried forward from the first five-year plan to the second five-year plan. This network will link the major parts of the republic's governorates with automatic telephone lines. Nearly 70 percent of the project has been completed. The project is being implemented in cooperation with the GDR.

With the completion of this part of the project, direct telephone communications have been secured between Aden, Lahaj, Ju'ar, Zanzibar and al-Mukalla. A telephone exchange with a capacity of 300 lines has been installed in Ju'ar, an exchange with a capacity of 200 lines has been installed in Zanzibar and a third exchange with a capacity of 300 lines in Lahaj.

Construction of New Telephone Exchange in al-Mukalla

During the years of the plan, a new telephone exchange with a maximum capacity of 20,000 lines will be built, of which only 10,000 lines will be installed within the plan's duration. This exchange will meet the First Governorate's needs of telephone lines for 15 years to come. The project will cover the areas of al-Mu'alla, al-Tawahi and Khawar Maksar. The Grater area will be supplied with lines (independent of the lines linked to al-Mu'alla exchange currently).

Addition of 2,000 Lines in al-Mansurah

Al-Mansurah area will be supplied with 2,000 more telephone lines to accommodate the construction expansion being witnessed by the area. This project is currently under construction.

As for postal services, new premises will be built in each of al-Mu'alla, al-Mansurah and Say'un during the years of the plan. Moreover, new postal offices and eight postal agencies will be opened in the governorate.

Development of National Telecommunications Network in Republic

Microwave: This project has been included in the plan with the purpose of completing the second phase of the study. The first phase of this study was completed during the first five-year plan. When the study is completed, implementation will begin during the years of the plan.

This project will link the various governorates of the republic through an automatic telephone network and will convey television transmission to the various governorates.

Construction of Ground Station for Artificial Satellite Communications

This project will be implemented during the years of the second five-year plan in cooperation with the government of the fraternal Algeria and will help to establish quick communications with the outside world and to keep up pace with the international developments in the field of telecommunications.

The ministry also has other projects which will be implemented during the years of the plan and which will help to enhance the telecommunication services.

Our Observations

In view of the enormous projects which will be implemented by the ministry and of the role that these projects will play in serving the national economy and meeting the citizens' needs, we believe that it is extremely important that certain objective and intrinsic conditions prevail, including the attitude toward the work and the preservation and maintenance of public property. This can be achieved only through educating the workers and raising the standard of their vigilance and through preparing competent cadres capable of managing the work in this or that facility.

Moreover, all the obstacles hindering the work must be eliminated and work must move forward.

In this respect, 'Ali 'Abbas, the director of planning at the Ministry of Communications, has assured us that the ministry has trained cadres for the various fields of specialization abroad and in the local training centers and that it will send more workers abroad for training aimed at meeting the needs of the projects which will be implemented in the coming years.

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PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

FIVE-YEAR PLAN ELECTRICAL PROJECTS DISCUSSED

Aden 14 October in Arabic 3 Jun 79 p 2

[Article by 'Umar Hawazir: "Report on Electricity Projects; 450 Million Electrical Units by End of Second Five-Year Plan Instead of 150 Million Units Presently; Thermo-Electric Plant Will Expand Electricity Network and Raise Production Capacity"]

[Excerpt] In our country, the revolution government has paid the electric power issue sufficient [sic] attention and has set allocations for it in the second five-year plan. The government program for the years 1979-83 has defined the enormous electricity-generating projects which will meet the large-scale demands of a number of governorates.

This has been done in compliance with the instructions of the Yemeni Socialist Party whose program stresses the development and expansion of the electricity network so that it may reach the various agricultural projects and cooperatives and all the industrial and agricultural production facilities under their control as a first step toward the electrification of the entire countryside.

Naturally, the program has also stressed the government's eagerness for expansion in the field of electricity commensurate with the horizontal expansion being witnessed by the republic in the sphere of economic development and in building the production base in both the agricultural and industrial sectors--an expansion that is escalating year after year.

Current Total Capacity

It is well-known that the republic's current total capacity does not exceed 40,000 kilowatts and that its average consumption amounts to 150 million electricity units. [BTU's].

Through the development that will be witnessed in the sphere of electricity in the years 1979-83, the total electric power production capacity will amount to nearly 100,000 kilowatts and the average power consumption is expected to rise to 450 million electricity units [BTU's].

How Will This Expansion Take Place?

This development in the sphere of electric power will take place in accordance with the projects that will be set up during the years of the second five-year plan. As planned, these projects consist of three fundamental projects and other subsidiary projects aimed at concentrated electric power production in the largest number of governorates. These projects are:

The Hadhramaut Valley Project: This project seeks to serve three fundamental issues:

A. Serve and supply agriculture with an electricity network.

As is well-known, Hadhramaut Valley is an extensive agricultural area that is famous for its abundant water and its fertile lands. This area contains nearly 2,000 shallow springs whose water will be diverted and collected in 500 deep wells that will be operated electrically. Through these wells, the process of irrigating the cooperative farms and the state farms will be regulated. By implementing this project, the problem of irrigation in the area located between al-Qutn in the west and Turaym in the east, a distance estimated at 140 kilometers, will be solved.

B. Supplying electricity to any vital project built in this area in the future.

C. Fulfilling other social purposes through electrification of most of the valley's villages by way of a central electric power plant with a capacity of 16,000 kilowatts. This plant is to operate on heavy fuel (mazut).

Construction of Plant to Begin in Middle of 1980:

Implementation of this project is scheduled to begin in the middle of 1980 and the plant and a part of its network are scheduled to start operating by the end of 1981.

With the completion of this plan, the function of most of the small plants that are now operating at high costs and without any guarantee of uninterrupted power production will cease. The new plants will provide big advantages in terms of small fuel costs and of guaranteed maintenance. Moreover, when the project is completed, it will benefit agricultural production which depends at present on pumping and all the problems that it produces.

Al-Mansurah Plant Project:

This project is considered one of the urgent projects at present because it will improve the electricity service needed in the First Governorate. The aim of this project is to build in al-Mansurah an electric power plant with a capacity 30,000 kilowatts that can be increased to 60,000 kilowatts.

The project calls for linking this plant with the network of the First and Second Governorates and then with the network of the Third Governorate through an overhead powerline operating at a tension of 132 kilowatts and with a length of 70 kilometers. The project is expected to be completed in 1981.

In preparation for implementing this project, the Public Electric Power Authority has prepared the project's technical specifications and invitations for bids to implement it will be presented shortly.

Thermo-Electric Power Plant in al-Haswah

The friendly Soviet Union is currently implementing this project. Workers are now making preparations, constructing a number of buildings and preparing the foundations which will constitute the start of this project.

The thermo-electric power plant will have a capacity of 110,000 kilowatts that can be increased to 165,000 kilowatts.

Idea on Thermo-Electric Plant

The plant will operate on steam turbines. This type of plant is distinguished by characteristics not present in other conventional plants--diesel and gas plants--because it is more guaranteed and less expensive.

This type of plants is usually cooled by sea or river water available in the areas where they are built. In our country, the plant will be cooled by sea water.

Plant Will Raise Power Production:

With the completion and operation of this plant, the Public Electric Power Authority will be able to expand the electricity network and to raise the electric power production.

Other Plants in Five-Year Plan

The authority also has several other projects for electrification of the rural areas in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Governorates, including plants in the towns of Lab'us, Bayhan, al-Shahar, al'Hami, al-Dia and others.

A part of these plants will serve agricultural purposes, in addition to other social services.

Contribution of These Projects Toward Supplying Agriculture and Industry With Power.

Comrade Mahmud Muhammad Iarmum, the executive chairman of the Public Electric Power Authority, says that even though the authority offers its

services presently to agricultural and industrial projects, electricity production in the future and after completion of the projects included in the second-five-year plan will expand and develop to meet the needs of the projects already in existence and those that will be set up during the years of the plan.

He added that electricity production by the existing plants and networks is limited and that no more than 20 percent of the republic's population benefits from this production. With the completion of the new electric power projects and with the supply of electric power to larger areas, we expect this percentage to double.

The power plant in Hadramaut Valley will play a fundamental role in serving and developing all the agricultural and industrial projects in the area. Moreover, the construction of larger plants in the First Governorate, such as al-Mansurah plant for example, will supply all the agricultural and industrial projects in the First and Second Governorates with the required power and will secure in a better manner continued work in the plants and farms of these two areas. Moreover, linking the First Governorate's network with the Second Governorate's network will also provide the Ubayn agricultural delta with the required service [power].

Our Observation

As a result of our visit to this facility, we have become aware of the enormous efforts exerted by the workers—efforts that appear clearly to the masses in their entirety through the uninterrupted supply, except rarely, of electric power. If anything, this indicates the attention that the workers devote to their work and the fact that these workers are aware that work in this facility is different from work in any other facility.

2. [Sic] Many citizens delay in paying the electricity bills and fail to pay these bills regularly. This creates numerous problems for the authority and for these citizens.
3. The comrade executive chairman of the authority noted that many citizens pay no attention to repairing internal electric wiring in their homes and fail to perceive the dangers caused by this failure, such as fires caused by short circuits.
4. In the thermo-electric plant, we noticed that the workers of the Ministry of Installations implementing the project are working with great devotion in the middle of the desert and under the blazing summer heat to complete this project on schedule.

It is our opinion that this will not be done unless consolidated and sincere efforts are exerted by all the authorities concerned and unless these authorities offer all their resources on time, specially in conjunction with construction materials and lumber supplied by the Domestic Trade Company.

8494

CSO: 4802

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES ZIONIST SETTLEMENT OF NABLUS

Doha AL-'ARAB in Arabic 14 June 79 p 12

[Editorial: "The Mountain of Fire"]

[Text] For the third day the city of Nablus is remaining steadfast with pride and honor, challenging the terror of the Nazis and the terrorists and is refusing the conspiracy of establishing settlements.

As the citizens of Nablus stand today steadfast against the hands of Zionist settlers, the history of honorable struggle always made Nablus confront any threatening attempts since this city was and still is the mountain of fire which defeated all threats.

What is happening today in Nablus, which is one of the largest cities of the occupied territory, confirms the following facts:

First: The Zionist rush to build more settlements all over the occupied territory is becoming dangerous especially in the fact that the Zionist attack on Nablus was a result of a decision made by the terrorist Menahem Begin who continuously declares that establishing settlements is the basis of the Zionist aggressive existence in the occupied Palestine.

Second: The rush of new settlements coincides with the attempts of the parties concerned in the peace agreement to pursue the conspiracy of self-rule.

This means that the on-going negotiations are serving the Zionist goals and are supporting the enemy's goals particularly in the case of settlements.

The enemy's government stopped establishing settlements for a definite period after the signing of the peace agreement but pushed its campaign for settlements on the eve of the talks concerning the conspiracy of self-rule. This clearly exposes what is behind the Zionist position and the insistence of the enemy's government on the policy of settlement even if the price is the failure of the talks.

The conspiracy of settlement from Gaza to Nablus means one thing. That is that the parties involved in the peace agreement agree to the existence of Zionists' settlements in the different areas of the occupied territory.

The revolution of the city of Nablus--the mountain of fire--at this time is the Palestinian national answer to the dangerous conspiracy of settlements and the conspiracy of self-rule.

8988

CSO: 802

FOURTH NURSES TRAINING SESSION TO END

Doha AL-'URUBA in Arabic 21 June 79 p 6

[Article: "The Fourth Nurses' Training Session Ends This Month"]

[Text] The fourth training session for nurses working in the administration of school health, which is being held at the permanent center of training and health education of the Ministry of Education, will terminate at the end of the current month.

This training session started at the beginning of June.

Dr 'Othman Sa'id, director of the Administration of School Health, said, "The purpose of this session is to acquaint the nurses, who are working in the field of school health, with the latest developments in the field of medicine. In addition to that, we aim at organizing and unifying medical concepts and agreeing on a unified working plan for the new school year with God's will.

"This session also includes a practical training program during which the nurses learn how to operate and maintain the modern medical equipment which the administration receives every year. In addition to that, the nurses are being trained to utilize the different means of promoting health information which would help in executing school health education programs."

The Most Important Elements for a Successful School Health Program

The session also includes theoretical lectures as well as an orientation program resulting in recommendations from the conferees which aim at improving the standards of school health services. The lectures also deal with modern medical equipment and the different means of disseminating health information.

The conferees make an initial evaluation at the beginning of the session and another evaluation at the end in order to measure the degree of success achieved as a result of the session.

The conferees will continue their training on the job in order to evaluate their acquired experience in the different health fields.

The previous three sessions have shown their effectiveness which encourages the administration to continue having these sessions and to broaden their scope.

8988

CSO: 4802

SYRIA

PROJECTS IN TARTUS COUNTRYSIDE INSPECTED BY GOVERNOR

Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 20 Jun 79 p 5

[Article: "New Projects in Tartus Countryside. Improvement of Conditions Concerning Schools, Water, Electric Power and Roads."]

[Text] The preparatory school of the village of al-Day, in the countryside of the Baniyas District, was inaugurated under the direction of Brig Gen 'Ali Zayud, governor of the Province of Tartus, in the midst of demonstrations expressing the joy of the masses and their love for their leader, their party and their guiding revolution. The ceremony was also attended by the police chief, a member of the executive office of the Educational Sector, the secretary and executive members of the Baniyas branch of the party, executives of the Housing, Communications and Public Works departments, as well as of the Baniyas district and al-'Anazah sub-district.

The governor listened to the requests of the local villagers and their requirements concerning the projects pertaining to the various facilities, starting with the water supplies. He asserted that everything has been done with the executives in charge of the Hamat and Latakia provinces to implement the water project of Abu Qubays or al-Laqbah to bring water to 10 villages in Tartus Province, 6 villages in Latakia and 5 villages in Hamat.

The project is of the utmost importance, since it is the only irrigational project destined to meet the requirements of these villages which are in dire need of water. As a temporary measure to meet any emergency and the current water shortage in the village, the secretary of the party's branch was instructed to rent a farming tractor equipped with a water tank--at the expense of the province--to transport water to the village and meet the needs of the local people.

The governor approved the creation of a secondary school for the village and nearby villages as well, along with the constitution of a committee headed by a member of the executive office of the Educational Sector.

This committee shall be responsible for finding and selecting the proper site for the construction of the school.

He asserted that the work is under way to connect the low tension network of the village with the general network of the country. He also promised to include the construction of a health center for the village in the preparation of the health projects to be executed in the province, and to give priority to its execution. In his address to the local people, he also asserted that the ruler and the party are intent on meeting their requirements concerning the projects pertaining to facilities, especially the irrigational facilities.

The governor previously had spent a full day on a field survey concerning the nature of the city of Baniyas and adjoining villages, especially the villages perched on the high hilltops bordering the provinces of Hamat and Latakia.

During that visit, the governor inspected the projects under execution in the area, as well as the health, living and supply conditions of all the local people.

He began his visit with the inspection of the reclaiming work on the shores of the Gulf of Baniyas for the execution of the seaside cornice project along the coast, for which 1 million Syrian pounds was set aside in the budget for this year. This project is considered of utmost importance for the Baniyas area owing to its value as a tourist and resort area, as well as a relaxation spot for the city people, where they can enjoy the beauty of the sea, the waters of the Gulf of Baniyas and its sandy beaches.

He also inspected the evolution of the repair and maintenance work on some sections of the road between Tartus and Baniyas, where he noticed the poor quality of the preparation of the asphalt paving mixture. He accordingly ordered the contractor to suspend the work, and he entrusted the director of the Communications Department with the responsibility of supervising and checking the improvement of the preparation of the mixture, subject to having to suspend and dismiss the contractor, after checking the extent of efficiency and the thoroughness of the execution of the new Latun al-Jard project.

He asked the director of the Communications Department to check on the completion of the paving of the above-mentioned road up to the village of al-Shandakhah. He also inspected the progress of the sewer project of the village of Bustan al-Hamam. In the village of al-'Anazah, he met with the local people and listened to their pleas. He gave his consent to the realization of the road to the secondary school of

al-'Anazah, the square for its junior high school and the road between Na'mu and al-Jard, and he instructed the doctor of the clinic to work 2 days a week instead of 1 day only, in order to ensure the availability of health services to the local people.

He promised to provide the village with a telephone switchboard as soon as the telephone department can afford it.

He inspected the work currently done to assemble mechanical equipment for the implementation of the Waf al-'Asal water project to provide water for the village, which should be ready to be used early next month. In the village of Latun al-Jard, the governor agreed to allocate an amount of 10,000 Syrian pounds to renovate its preparatory school. He also gave his consent to the creation of a first secondary section in the village for the next school year, pending the subsequent creation of a secondary school for the village. He instructed the member of the executive office of the Education Department to prepare the required surveys for the construction of the secondary school. With reference to the water supply for the village, he instructed the secretary of the local branch of the party to establish a contract--at the expense of the province--with a farming tractor operator to carry water to the village, and he assured the local people that an agreement was reached with the military housing agency to implement the Na'mu and al-Maranah project, which will provide water to the village and a number of thirsty villages in the area. The realization of this project shall have important social effects in the district, as it will save the local people much of the effort and toil which they currently have to spend on transporting water on burden animals and crossing long distances covering many kilometers. This project also will play an important part in many fields in the evolution of the district.

In the village of al-Shandakha, on the borders of the Latakia and Tartus provinces, the governor listened to the local people's requests, specifically concerning water supplies. Let us mention here that the only source of water for the villages on the borders adjoining the three provinces is Abu Qubays or al-Laqbah. The implementation of the project has remained the subject of a mass request. It is badly needed, and its implementation depends on the approval of the three provinces. This is neither difficult nor impossible, but it is necessary to overcome existing difficulties, whatever their importance may be.

On the other hand, the governor agreed to allocate an amount of 10,000 Syrian pounds to renovate the village of al-Shandakhah. He also agreed, when he met with the people of the village of al-Nawatif, to bring electric lighting to this village by connecting it with the electric power network of the village of al-Day. During that visit, the governor

also checked the condition of the tobacco crop, which is considered the main economic resource of the local people. The local people actually discussed with him the matter of the purchase price, which does not correspond to the efforts involved in raising the crop.

According to the correspondent of AL-THAWRAH in Tartus, in spite of the difficult nature of the mountain area, with its deep ravines, some of which are several hundred meters deep, the assistance of the ruler, the party and the revolution has been extended to all the villages, which have been endowed with institutes of knowledge as well as paved roads. Electric power, telephone, water and other facilities have successively come to the people of these villages. The realization of monitoring units for the carpet industry in these villages is an extremely important matter, which will contribute to helping women progress and will teach them carpet weaving. Finally, the monitoring units shall set up anti-illiteracy programs each year, which will contribute to fighting illiteracy among women here.

2693

CSO: 4802

SYRIA

IMPROVEMENTS ON PORTS OF LATAKIA, TARTUS PLANNED

Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 20 Jun 79 p 4

[Article: "Measures Taken To Expedite Merchandise Loading and Unloading Operations, as Well as Working System, in the Ports of Latakia and Tartus"]

[Text] Damascus--Mr Muhammad Ghubash, minister of supply and internal trade, and Dr Salim Yasin, minister of transport, both returned yesterday to Damascus after completing their 2-day visit to the provinces of Latakia and Tartus. Both ministers had a number of meetings with the governors of both cities and the directors of both ports in the presence of executives and officials in charge of internal and foreign trade. Matters pertaining to transportation and ship unloading at the ports of Latakia and Tartus were discussed at those meetings. A number of measures were also taken concerning the acceleration of operations pertaining to the loading and unloading of goods at both ports, in addition to the matter of working regulations at both ports.

Both ministers also discussed--each one within his own ministerial field--with the officials in charge of the institutions and companies connected with their respective departments various questions which were brought up, as well as the establishment of adequate solutions to such questions.

The minister of supply and internal trade actually told the correspondent of the Syrian Arab News Agency that he had a number of meetings with the respective directors of the Supply Department of both provinces in order to discuss the situation of the institutions and companies connected with his department, and that they informed him about the manner in which the work is conducted.

The minister stressed to them the necessity of meeting the requirements of the local people and of accomplishing all the operations as promptly as possible, while minimizing all the difficulties which may hinder the affairs of the local people. He also surveyed on the spot the manner in which the work is conducted at the institutions and companies connected with his department.

The minister subsequently inspected the automated bakeries. It is expected, he said, that the new production line of Arab flat bread for the Latakia Province should be completed early in July 1979.

The minister also inspected the meeting rooms and lobbies of the General Retail Trade Company, and met with the executives and officials in charge.

The minister invited them to continue their work with perseverance in order to serve the local people and meet their basic requirements.

Mr Muhammad Ghubash, minister of supply and internal trade, approved the opening of five new centers for the sale of the output of the automated bakery in the various boroughs of the city.

That was announced by the director of the Supply Department, who added that the assembly work concerning the equipment and materials for the flat bread production line is almost completed, and the line should be ready to operate by the beginning of next month, with an expected daily output of 10 tons a day.

2693

CSO: 4802

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

INVESTMENT PROGRAM CONCENTRATES ON INCOMPLETE PROJECTS

Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 1 Aug 79 p 3

[Text] Abu Dhabi, July 31 (WAM)--The basic feature of the UAE investment program for 1979 indicates sanction of the greater part of the allocations to uncompleted projects and the selection of a few important new schemes.

The allocations for the current year totalled 1,154 million dirhams out of which 1,105.6 million were allotted for completing projects and the remainder for new projects.

The Education Ministry was allocated 229.5 million dirhams, of which 32.9 million dirhams were for Abu Dhabi, 51.5 million for Dubai, 59.4 million for Sharjah, 11.6 million for Ajman, 9.7 million for Um Al Quwain, 45.5 million for Ras Al Khalmah and 11.9 million for Fujairah. Additionally, a total of 7.3 million dirhams have been allocated for projects which serve more than one emirate.

Among the ministry's projects are 193 schools in the various emirates, including 32 kindergartens, 108 primary schools, 29 preparatory schools and 24 secondary schools.

The Health Ministry was granted a sum of 117.2 million dirhams out of which 12.8 million was for Abu Dhabi, 48.2 million for Dubai, 7.5 million for Sharjah, 7.5 million for Ajman, 15.5 million for Um Al Quwain, 16.4 million for Ras Al Khalmah and 5.8 million for Fujairah. Another sum of eight million dirhams was allocated for projects which serve more than one emirate.

The Ministry's projects include 23 out-patient clinics, four maternity and child clinics in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, four dental clinics to be located in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah, a nursing school in Abu Dhabi and extensions to several hospitals.

The Ministry of Electricity and Water was provided with 181.4 million dirhams of which a sum of 33.2 million was for Sharjah, 41.5 million for Ajman, 15.6 million for Um Al Quwain, 23.4 for Ras Al Khalmah and 60.7 million for Fujairah. An additional 7 million was allocated for projects which serve more than one emirate.

The projects include linkage electricity network in the emirates and extensions to several power stations in the various emirates.

The Communications Ministry was allotted a sum of 151.6 million dirhams out of which 1.6 million was for Abu Dhabi, 6 million for Dubai, 64.9 million for Sharjah, 3.4 million for Ajman, 3.7 million for Umm Al Quwain, 26.7 million for Ras Al Khaimah and 45.3 million for Fujairah.

The Ministry's projects include construction of 14 postal centres in the emirates and completion of roads which link the emirates with each other.

A provision of 137.2 million dirhams was made for the Public Works and Housing Ministry over which a sum of 5.9 million was for Abu Dhabi, 6.2 million for Dubai, 3 million for Sharjah, 1.5 million for Ajman, 1.5 million for Umm Al Quwain, 25.5 million for Ras Al Khaimah and 12.7 million for Fujairah, with an additional allocation of 82.4 million for projects which serve more than one emirate.

The projects include the construction and completion of 3,582 residential units in the various emirates.

Justice and Islamic Affairs Ministry obtained 30.8 million dirhams for the construction of mosques and court buildings in the various emirates.

The security sector, which includes the Interior Ministry and the State Security, was allotted 96.4 million dirhams for the construction of the Interior Ministry building, State Security building and police and passports centres in the various emirates.

The Information and Culture Ministry was granted 57 million dirhams. Important among its projects are a big TV studio in Abu Dhabi and outdoor transmission vans and equipment.

The Agriculture and Fisheries Ministry was allotted 135.6 million dirhams of which a sum of 50 million dirhams was for agricultural loans and subsidies. Important among its projects are the water and soil survey project and digging of wells in all the emirates.

Nine million dirhams have been allocated for construction and expansion in the buildings for the Council of Ministers, Federal National Council Planning Ministry, Finance and Industry Ministry, Accountancy Bureau and the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

CSO: 4820

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

INDUSTRIAL SECTOR ALLOCATION--Abu Dhabi, Aug 5 (ITYIHAD)--Allocations for the industrial sector this year totalled 255.5 million dirhams, according to a report released by the industrial section of Abu Dhabi Planning Department. The report which detailed the achievements of the industrial sector in Abu Dhabi emirate indicated that there are other projects under implementation. There are factories which will be commissioned this year. Among these are Abu Dhabi and Al Ain cement brick factories at an outlay of 30.5 million dirhams and the expansion of Abu Dhabi factory for fertilisers at a total cost of 92.5 dirhams [as printed]. Factories which will be completed next year include Al Ain lime factory at a total outlay of 416.5 million dirhams. Factories which will be completed in 1981 include the fodder factory in Abu Dhabi at a total cost of 49.5 million dirhams. The Planning Department has referred several projects for consultative study among which are the iron and steel complex project in Ruweis, the dry dock project and the plant for cables and electric wire. [Text] [Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 6 Aug 79 p 3]

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